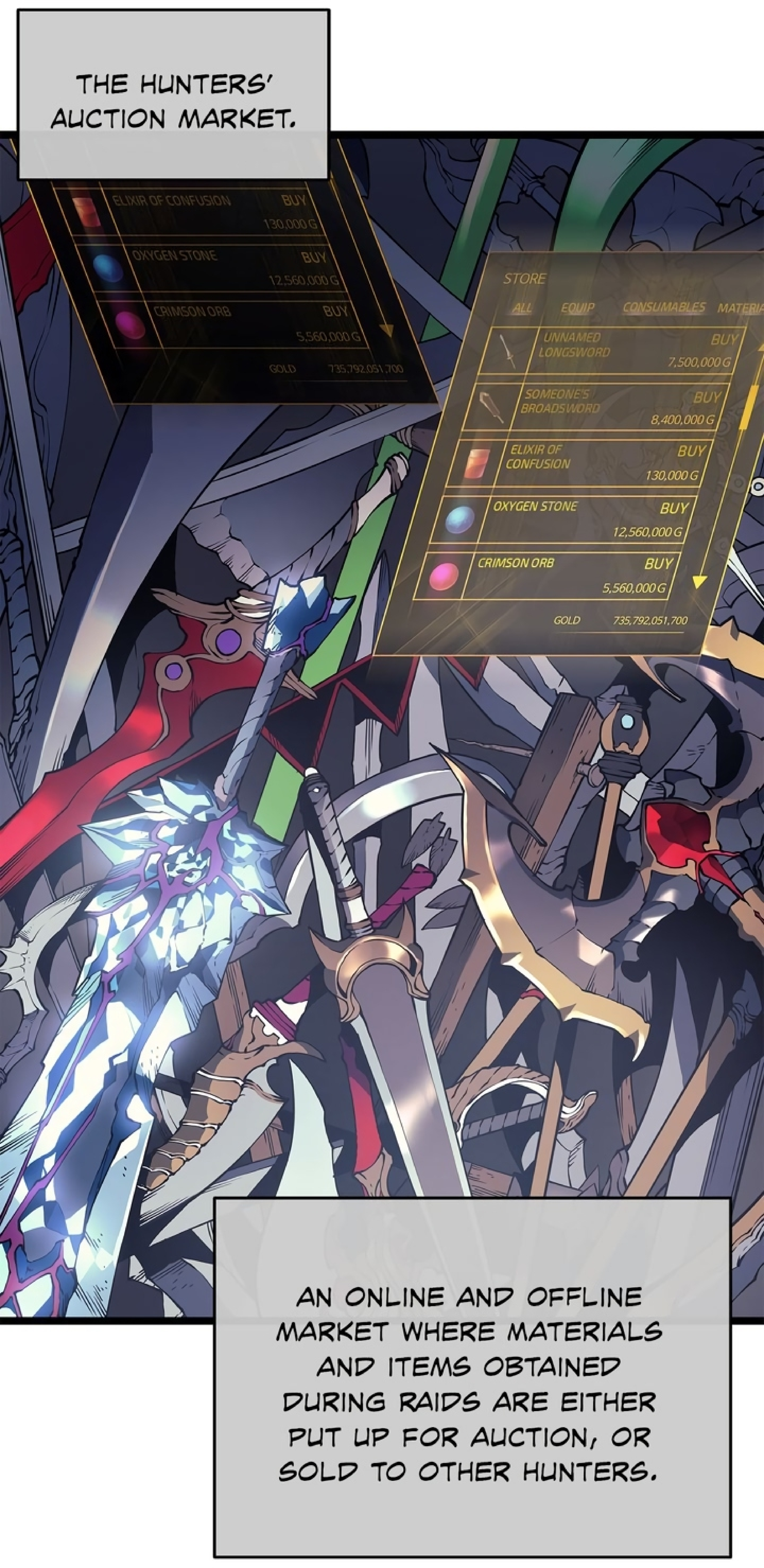
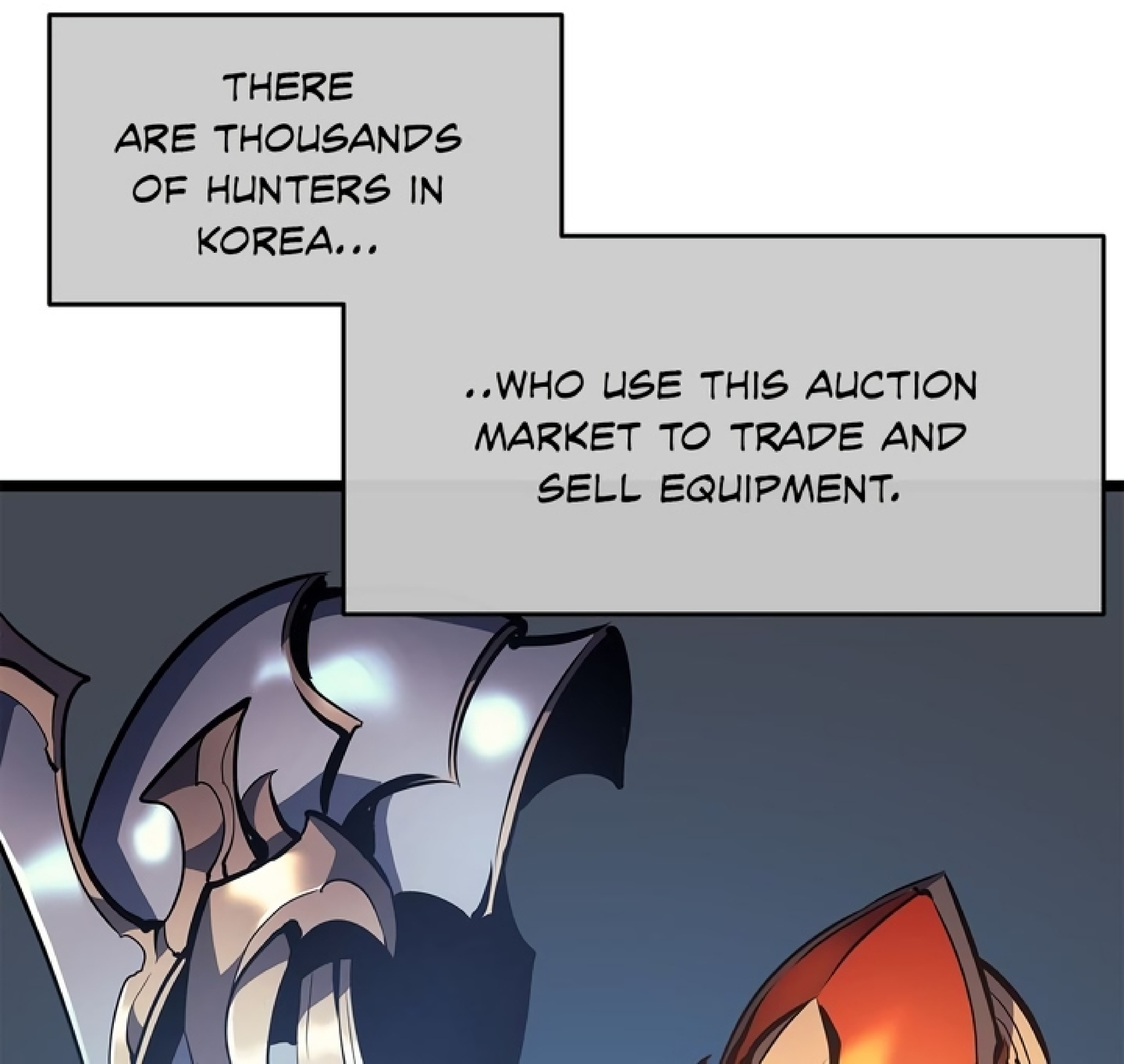
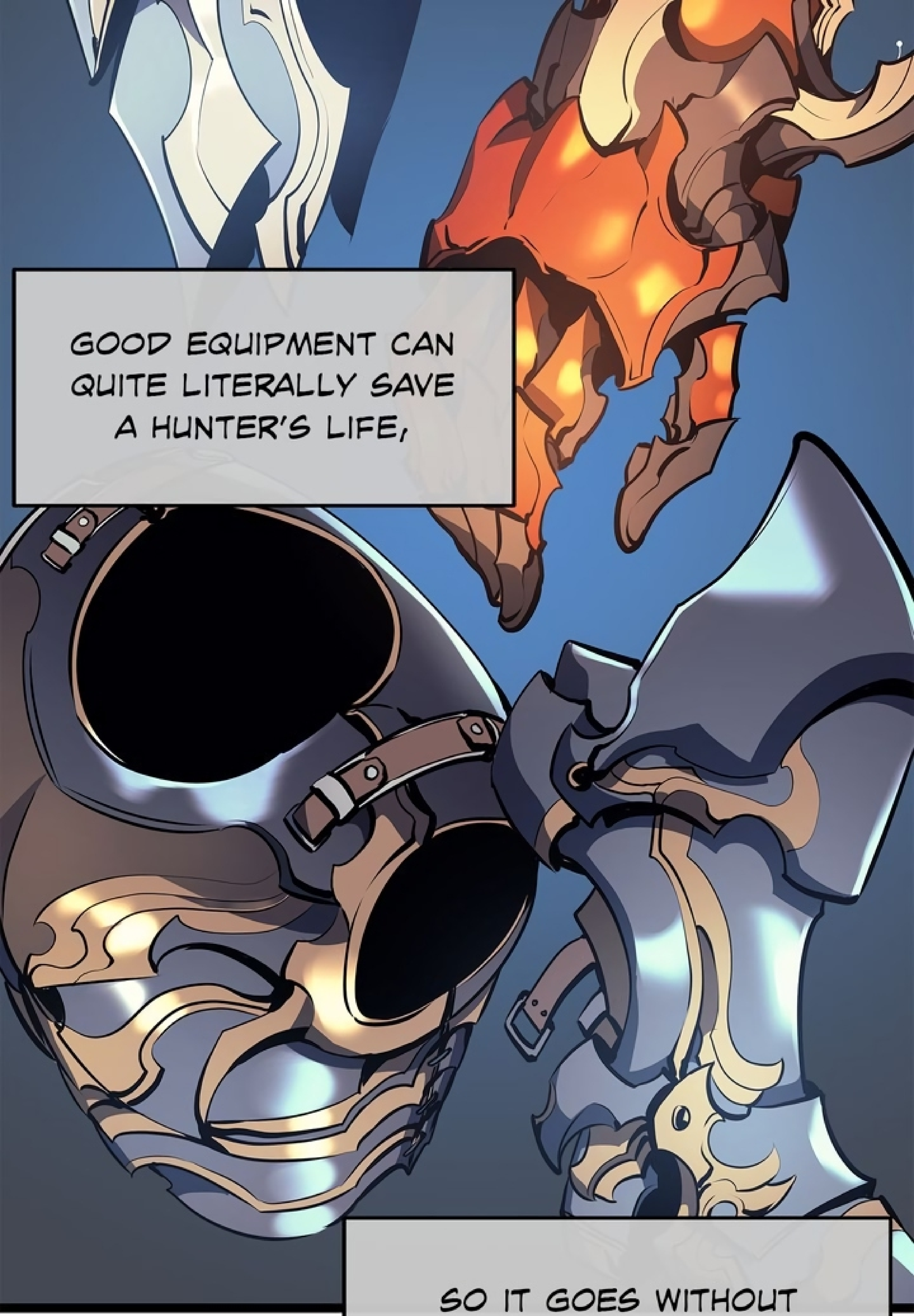
Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

65


THE HUNTERS' AUCTION MARKET.
STORE
ALL
EQUIP
CONSUMABLES
UNNAMED LONGSWORD
BUY
7,500,000 G
SOMEONE'S BROADSWORD
BUY
8,400,000 G
ELIXIR OF CONFUSION
BUY
130,000 G
OXYGEN STONE
BUY
12,560,000 G
CRIMSON ORB
BUY
5,560,000 G
GOLD
735,792,051,700
AN ONLINE AND OFFLINE MARKET WHERE MATERIALS AND ITEMS OBTAINED DURING RAIDS ARE EITHER PUT UP FOR AUCTION, OR SOLD TO OTHER HUNTERS.

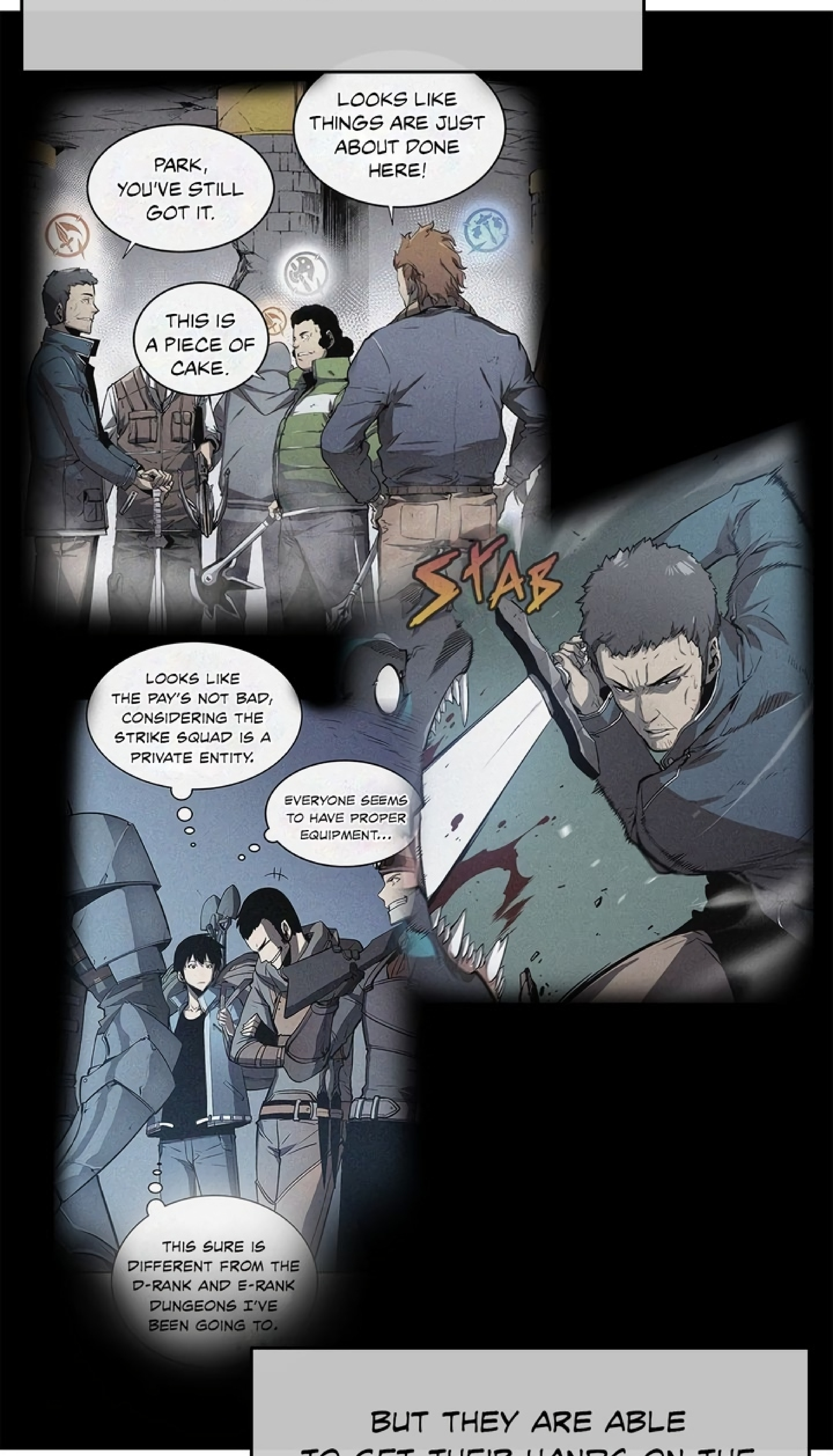

THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF HUNTERS IN KOREA...
..WHO USE THIS AUCTION MARKET TO TRADE AND SELL EQUIPMENT.



GOOD EQUIPMENT CAN QUITE LITERALLY SAVE A HUNTER'S LIFE,

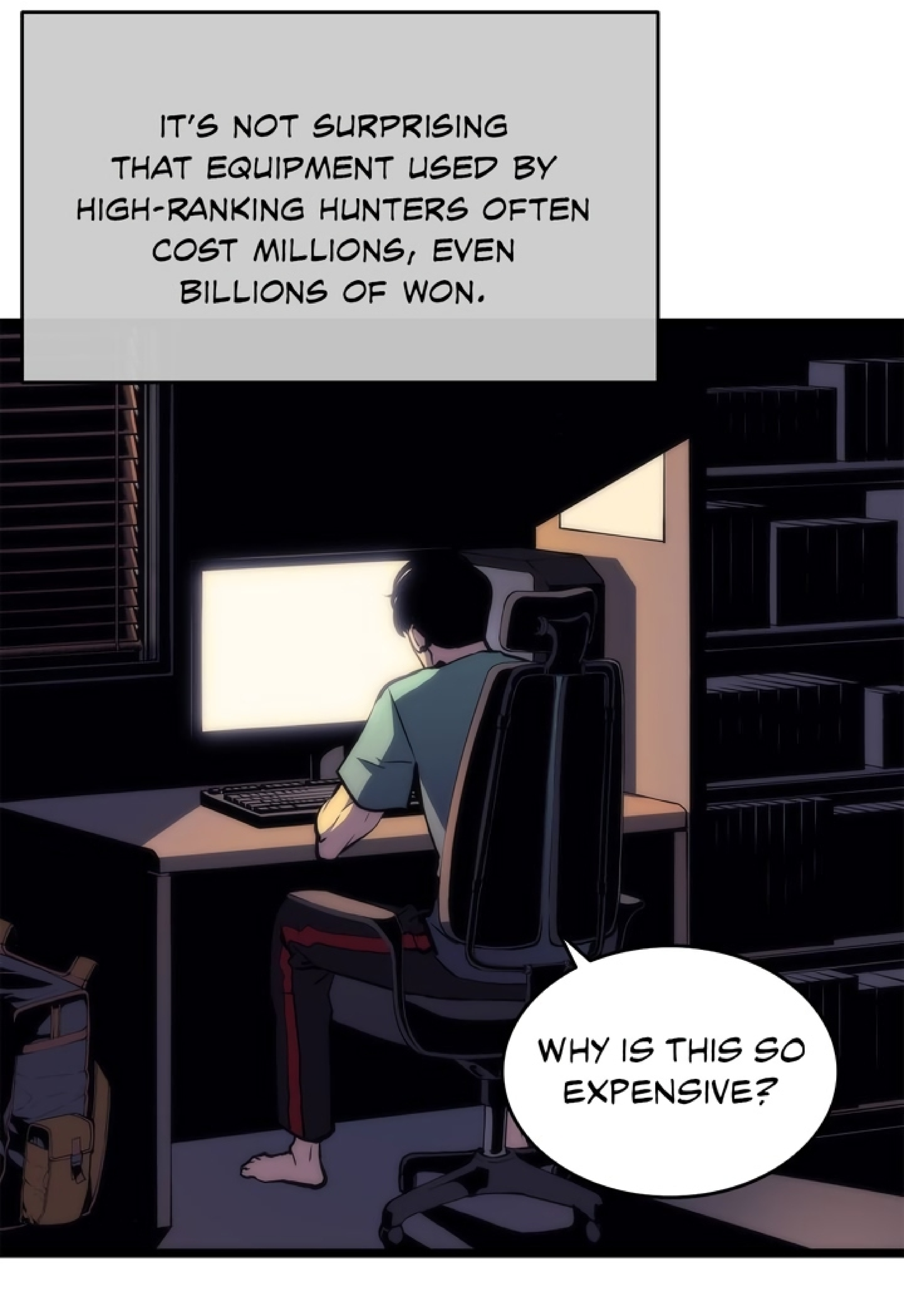
SO IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT HUNTERS WHO UTILIZE GOOD EQUIPMENT ARE ABLE TO BETTER PROTECT THEMSELVES.

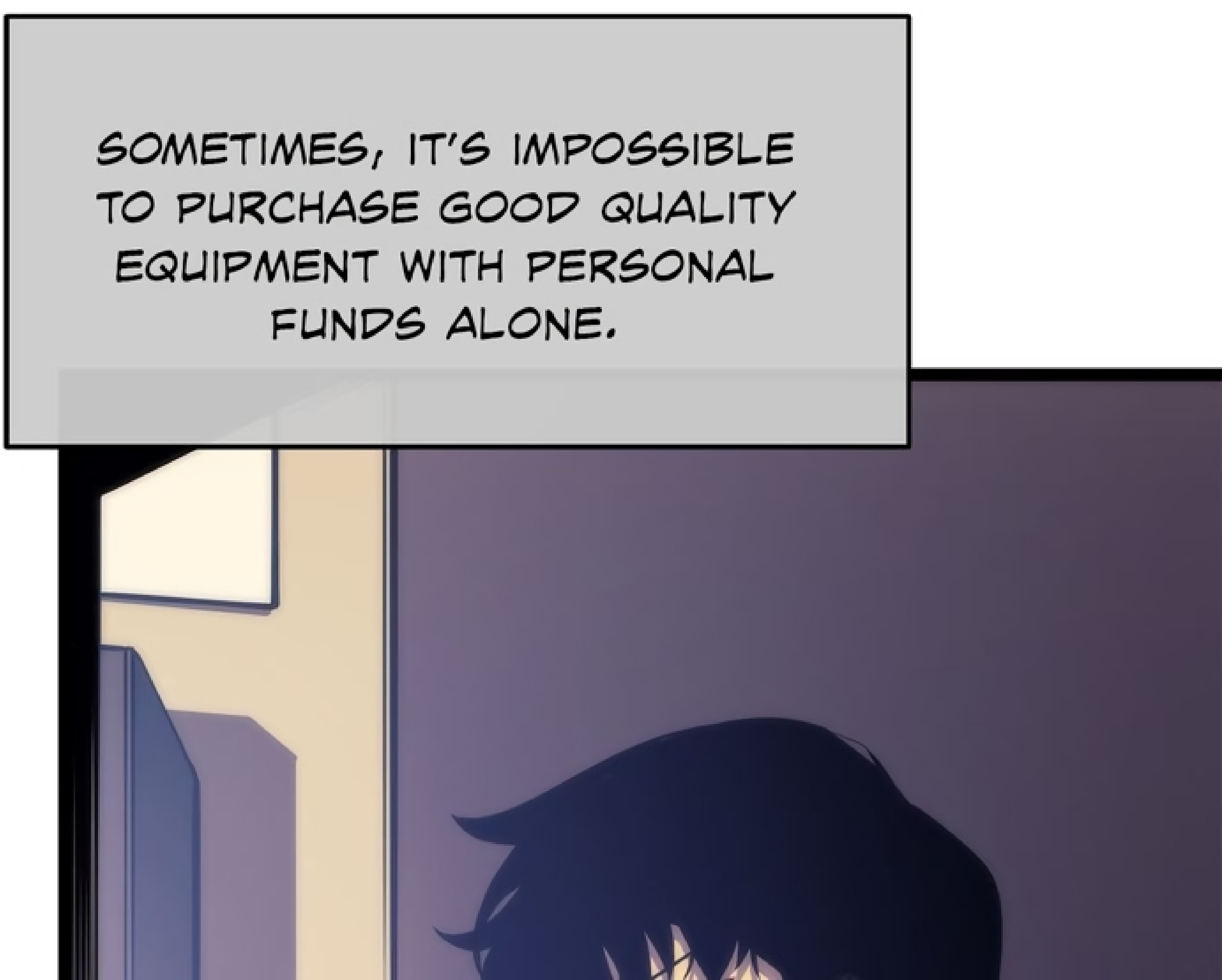
D-RANK AND E-RANK HUNTERS USUALLY CAN'T AFFORD TO BUY ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY DON'T MAKE AS MUCH MONEY AS THE HIGHER-RANKING HUNTERS,

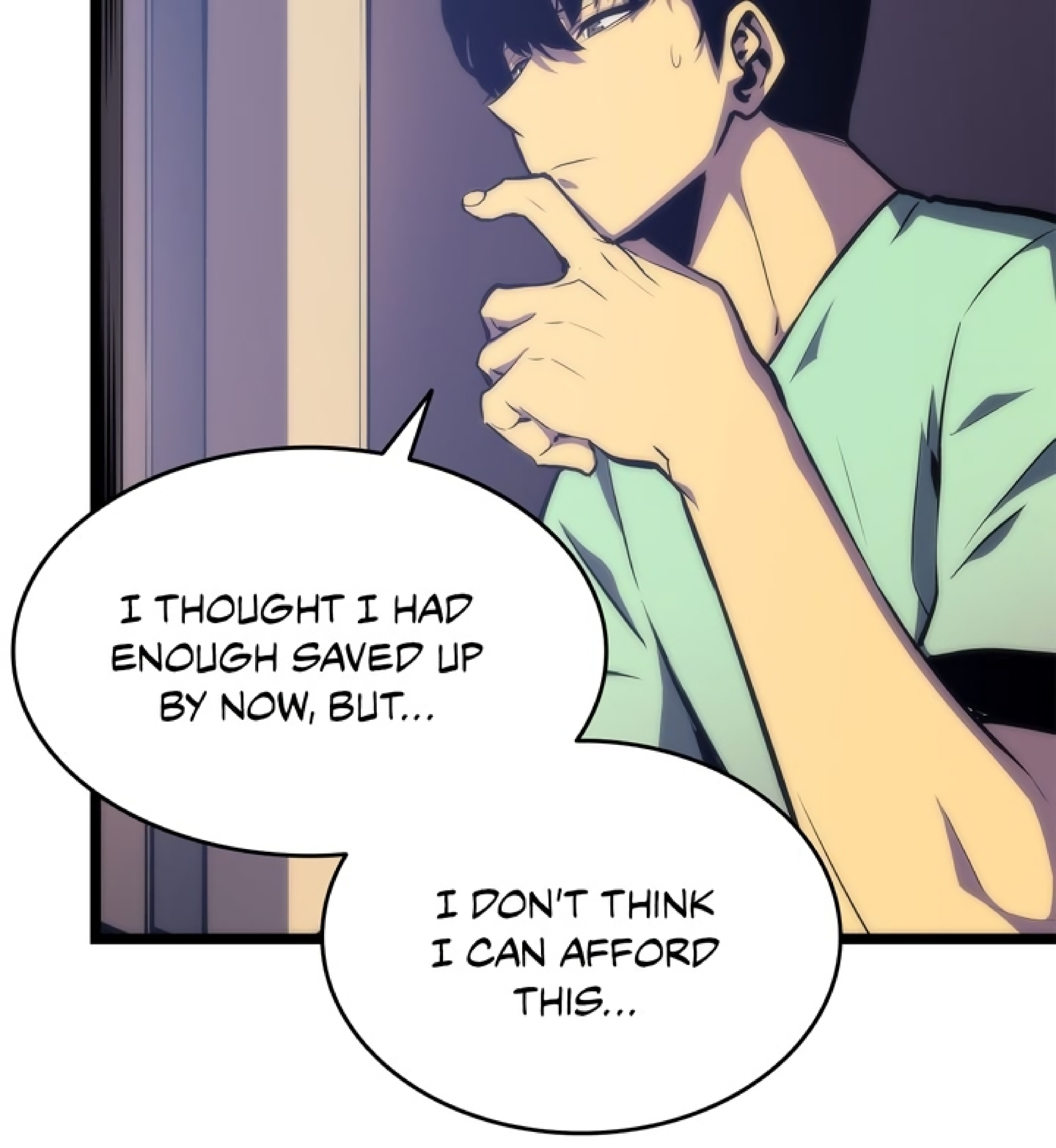

LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE JUST ABOUT DONE HERE!
PARK, YOU'VE STILL GOT IT.
THIS IS A PIECE OF CAKE.
STAB
LOOKS LIKE THE PAY'S NOT BAD, CONSIDERING THE STRIKE SQUAD IS A PRIVATE ENTITY.
EVERYONE SEEMS TO HAVE PROPER EQUIPMENT...
THIS SURE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE D-RANK AND E-RANK DUNGEONS I'VE BEEN GOING TO.

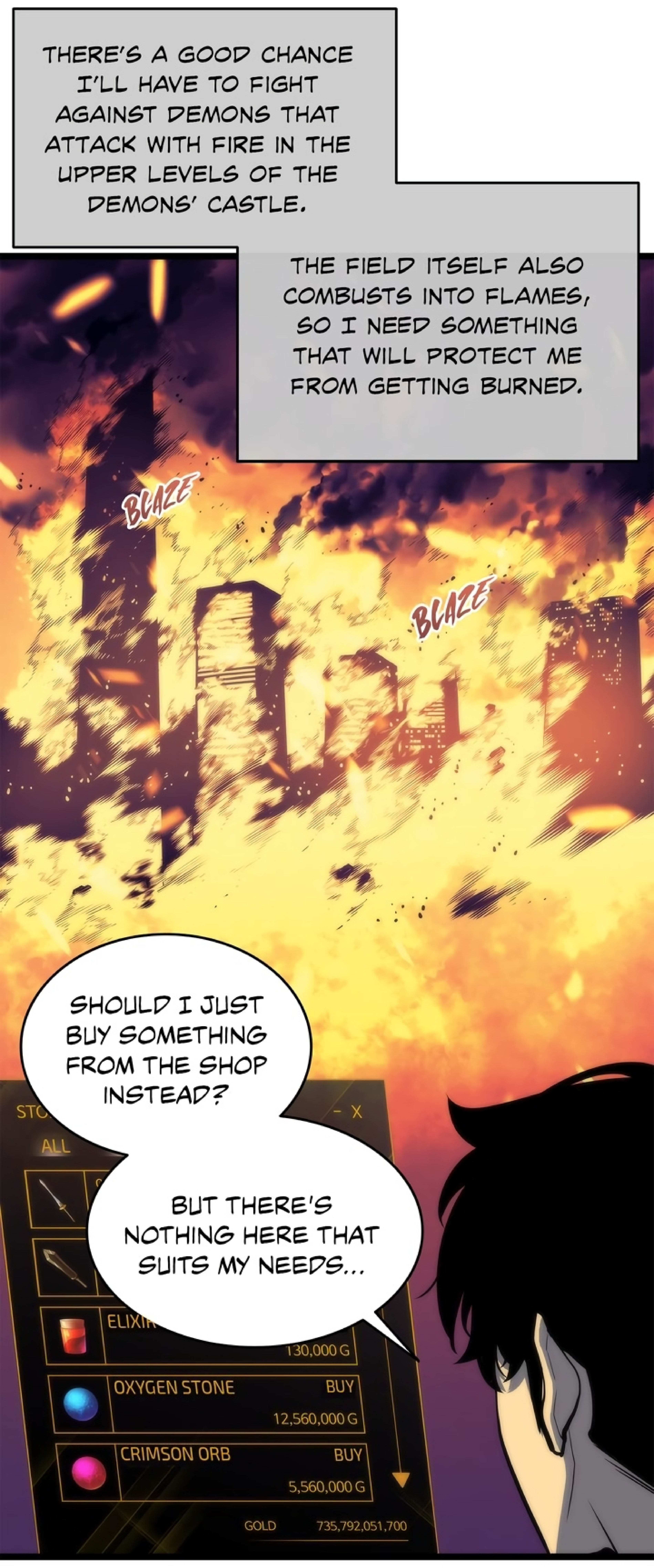
BUT THEY ARE ABLE TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THE EQUIPMENT THEY NEED IF THEY JOIN A STRIKE SQUAD THAT GOES ON REGULAR RAIDS.

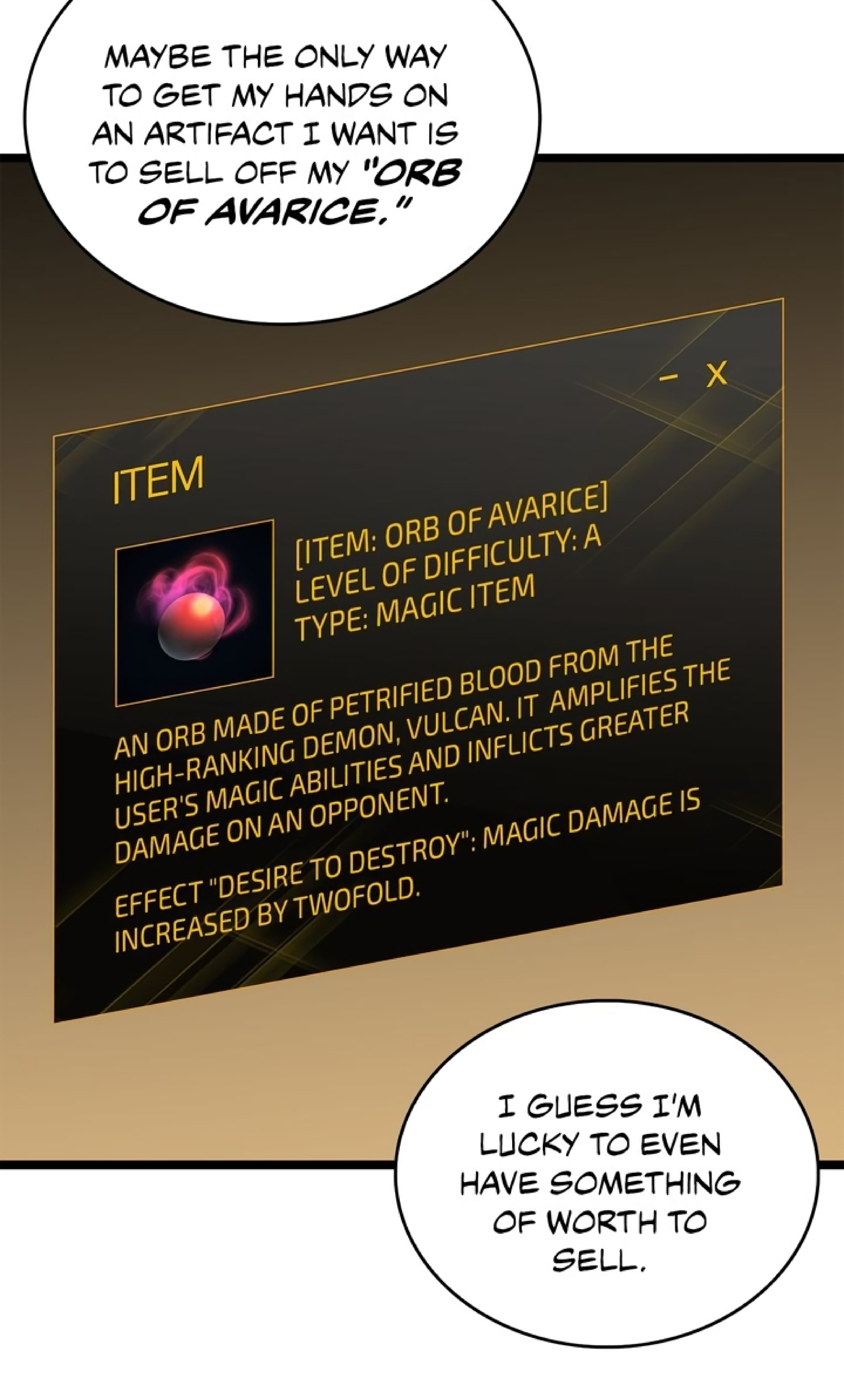
ALL OF THE EQUIPMENT USED BY HUNTERS IS IMBUED WITH MAGIC,
SO EVEN A D-RANK HUNTER'S SHODDY SWORD COSTS A FORTUNE.
I REMEMBER MR. KIM SAYING THAT HE BOUGHT THIS SWORD FOR THREE MILLION WON.
I CAN'T AFFORD ANYTHING LIKE IT... SO I'LL JUST USE THIS FOR THE TIME BEING.
THIS INVENTORY FEATURE IS PRETTY HANDY.
[ITEM: KIM SANGSHIK'S STEEL SWORD]
TYPE: SWORD
ATTACK +10
CAN I STORE RANDOM STUFF IN HERE?
BECAUSE HUNTERS THAT ARE C-RANK OR HIGHER ARE GUARANTEED A HIGH INCOME, THEY'RE ABLE TO PURCHASE GEAR THAT WILL HELP PROTECT THEM IN BATTLE AND SPEED UP THE HUNT.


IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT EQUIPMENT USED BY HIGH-RANKING HUNTERS OFTEN COST MILLIONS, EVEN BILLIONS OF WON.
WHY IS THIS SO EXPENSIVE?


SOMETIMES, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO PURCHASE GOOD QUALITY EQUIPMENT WITH PERSONAL FUNDS ALONE.


I THOUGHT I HAD ENOUGH SAVED UP BY NOW, BUT...
I DON'T THINK I CAN AFFORD THIS...


THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE I'LL HAVE TO FIGHT AGAINST DEMONS THAT ATTACK WITH FIRE IN THE UPPER LEVELS OF THE DEMONS' CASTLE.
THE FIELD ITSELF ALSO COMBUSTS INTO FLAMES, SO I NEED SOMETHING THAT WILL PROTECT ME FROM GETTING BURNED.
BLAZE
BLAZE
SHOULD I JUST BUY SOMETHING FROM THE SHOP INSTEAD?
BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE THAT SUITS MY NEEDS...
- X
ALL
ELIXI
130,000 G
OXYGEN STONE
BUY
12,560,000 G
CRIMSON ORB
BUY
5,560,000 G
GOLD
735,792,051,700

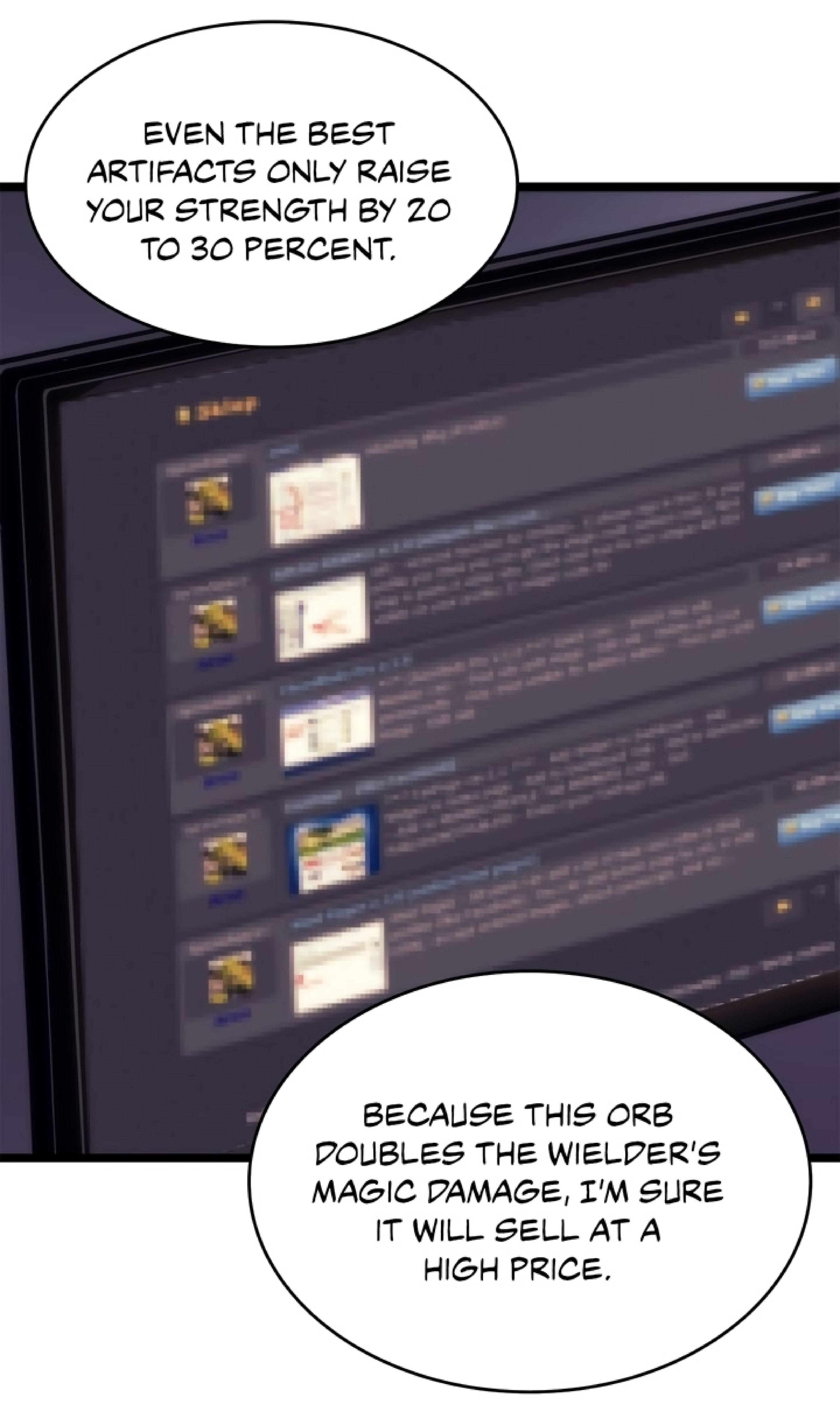

MAYBE THE ONLY WAY TO GET MY HANDS ON AN ARTIFACT I WANT IS TO SELL OFF MY *"ORB OF AVARICE."*
- X
I GUESS I'M LUCKY TO EVEN HAVE SOMETHING OF WORTH TO SELL.

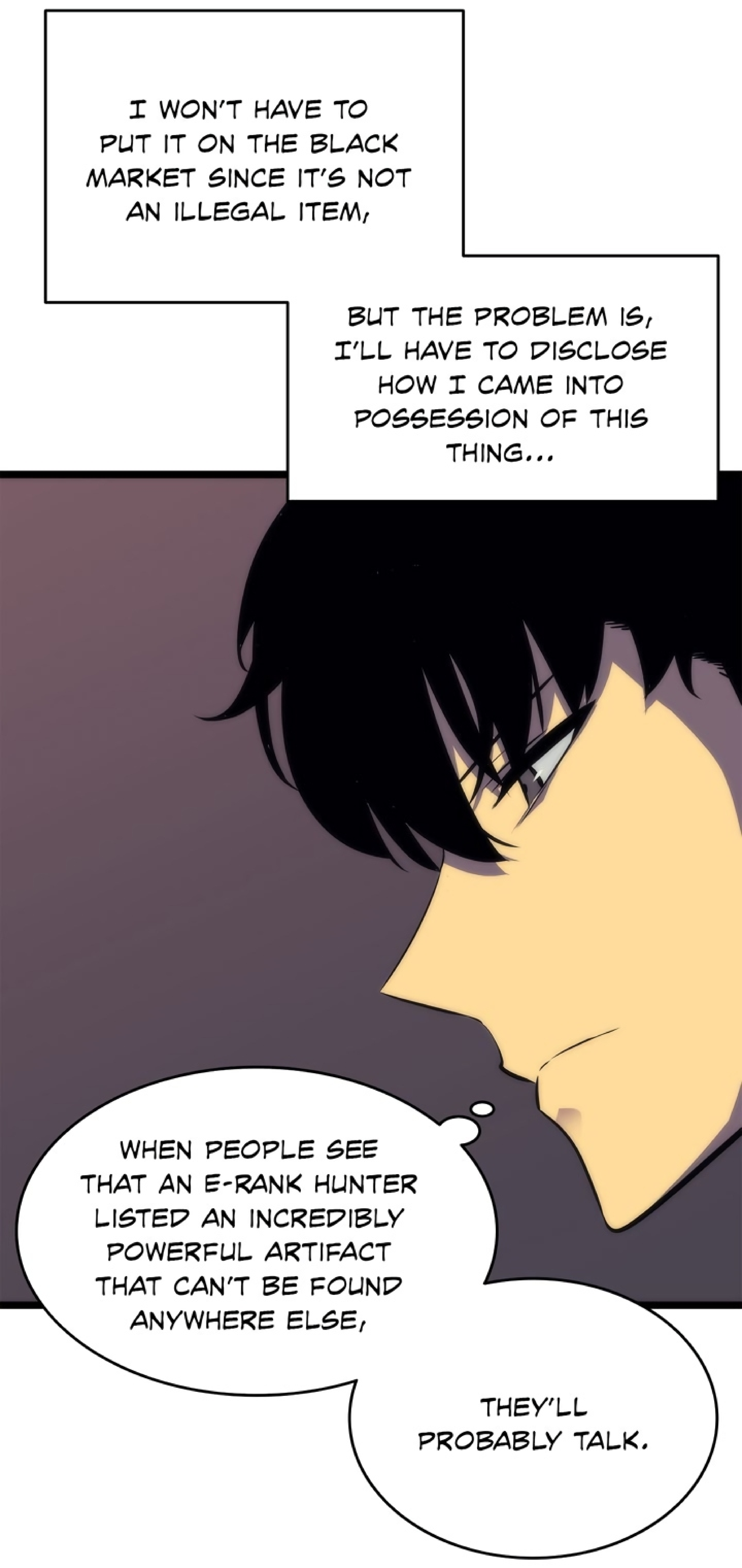
ITEM

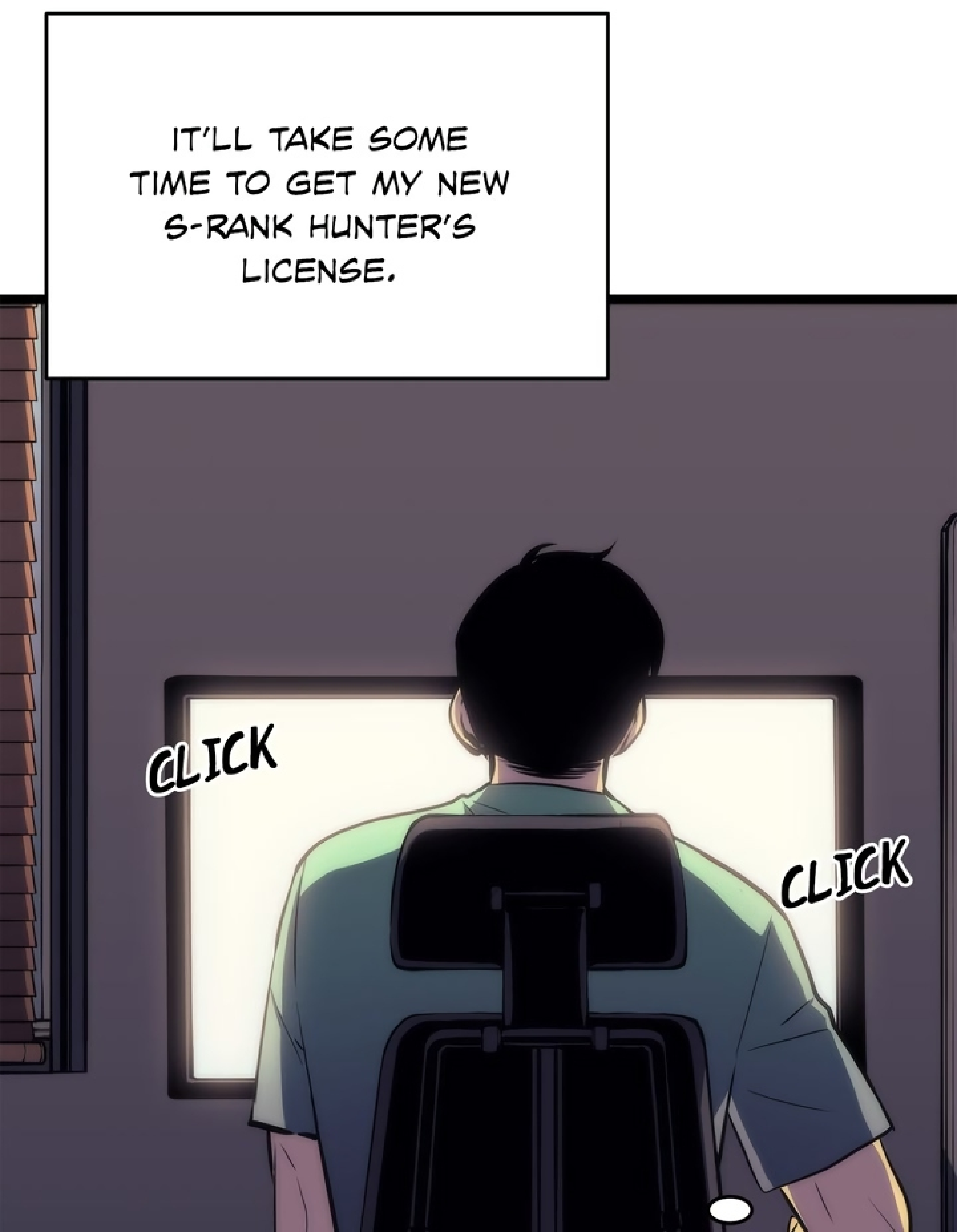
[ITEM: ORB OF AVARICE]
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: A
TYPE: MAGIC ITEM

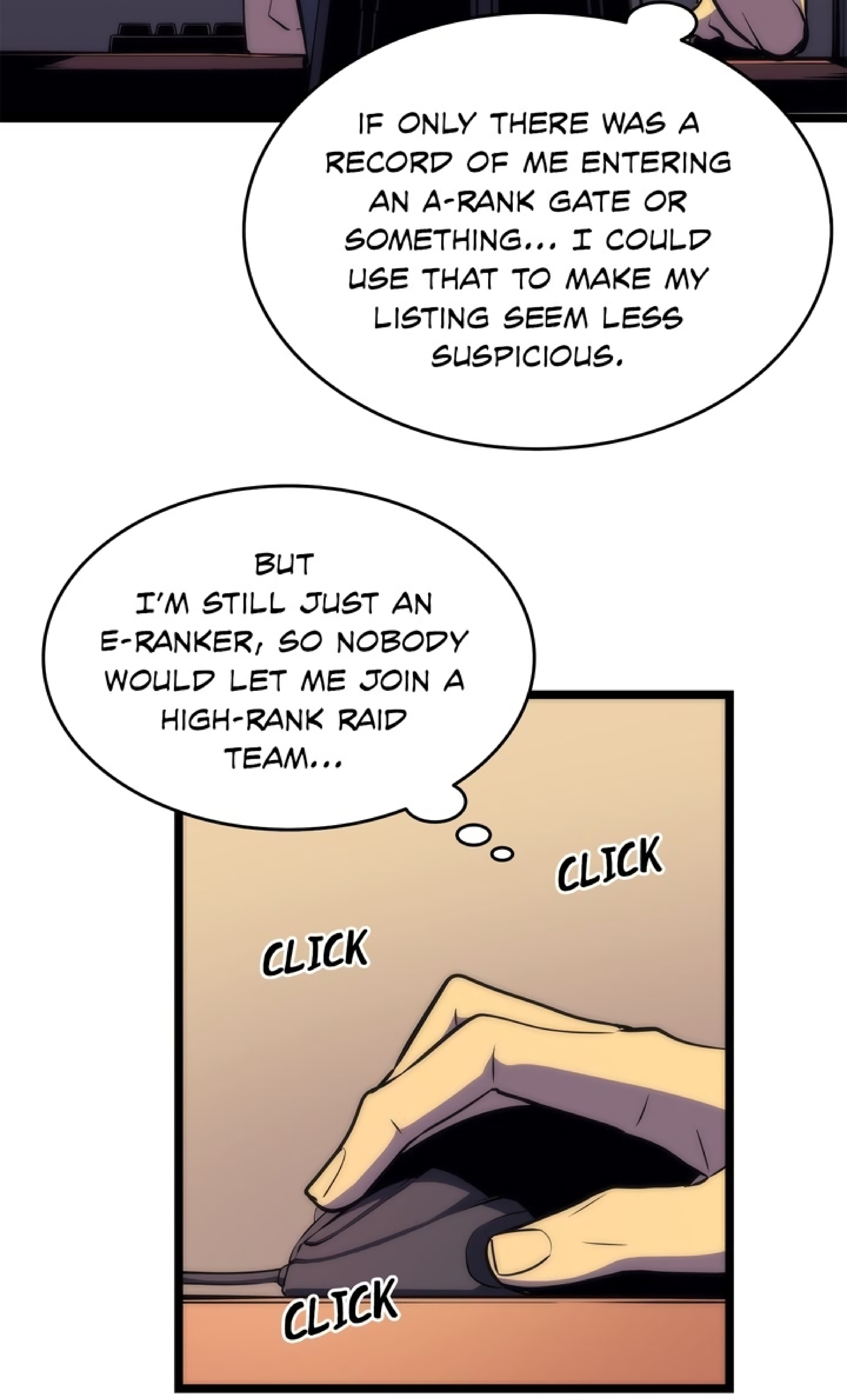
AN ORB MADE OF PETRIFIED BLOOD FROM THE HIGH-RANKING DEMON, VULCAN. IT AMPLIFIES THE USER'S MAGIC ABILITIES AND INFLICTS GREATER DAMAGE ON AN OPPONENT.

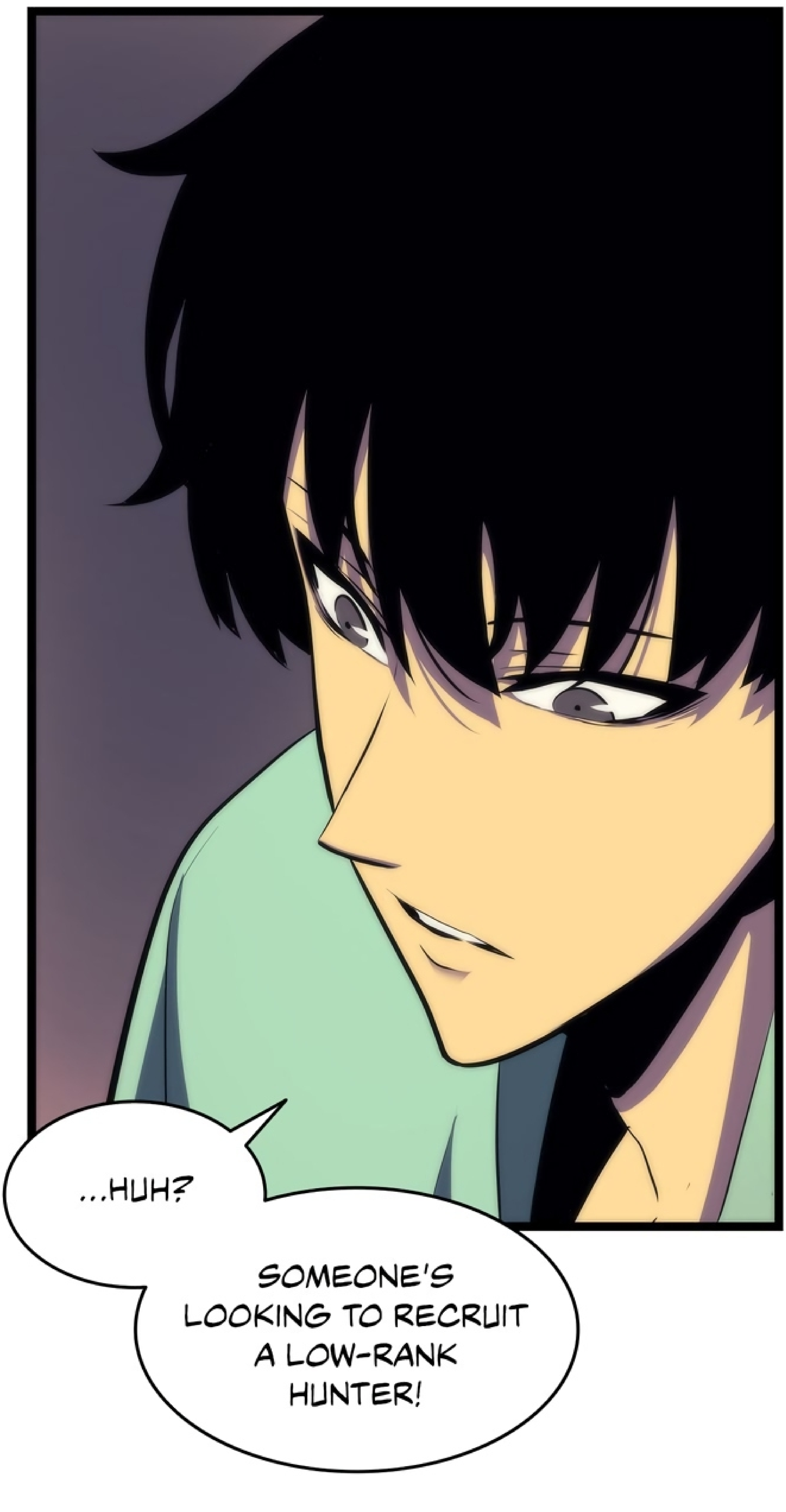
EFFECT "DESIRE TO DESTROY": MAGIC DAMAGE IS INCREASED BY TWOFOLD.

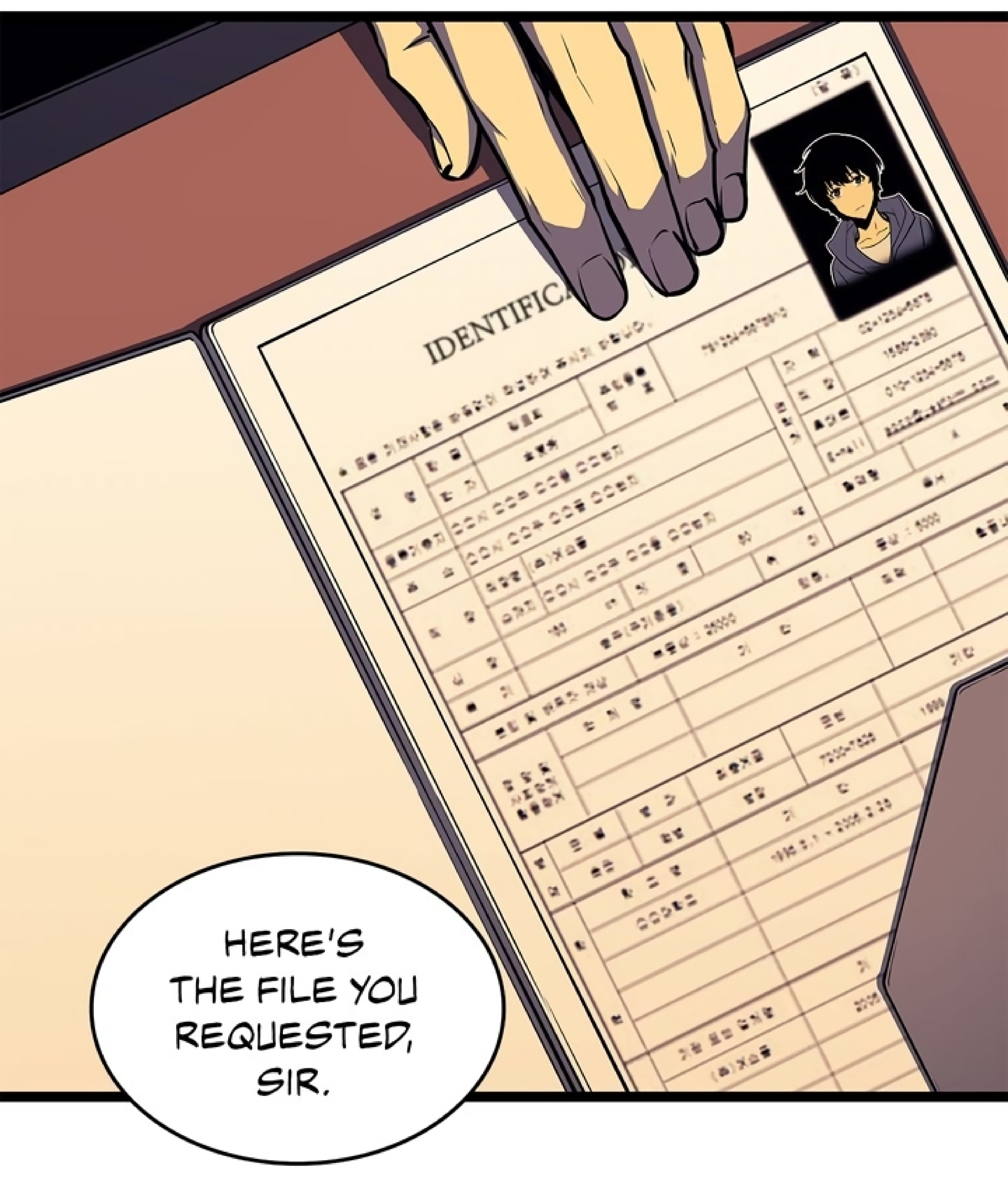

EVEN THE BEST ARTIFACTS ONLY RAISE YOUR STRENGTH BY 20 TO 30 PERCENT.
BECAUSE THIS ORB DOUBLES THE WIELDER'S MAGIC DAMAGE, I'M SURE IT WILL SELL AT A HIGH PRICE.

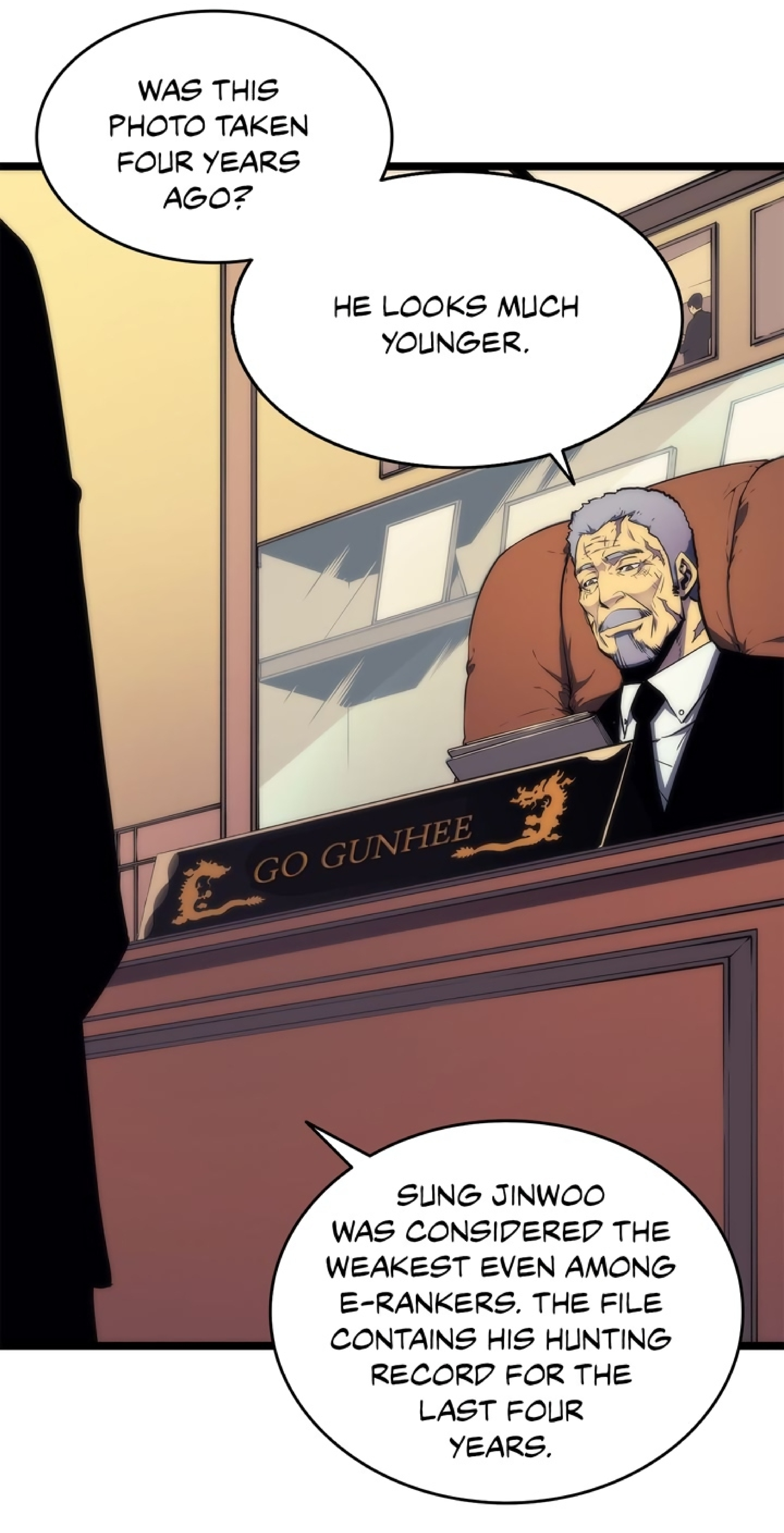

I WON'T HAVE TO PUT IT ON THE BLACK MARKET SINCE IT'S NOT AN ILLEGAL ITEM,
BUT THE PROBLEM IS, I'LL HAVE TO DISCLOSE HOW I CAME INTO POSSESSION OF THIS THING...
WHEN PEOPLE SEE THAT AN E-RANK HUNTER LISTED AN INCREDIBLY POWERFUL ARTIFACT THAT CAN'T BE FOUND ANYWHERE ELSE,
THEY'LL PROBABLY TALK.

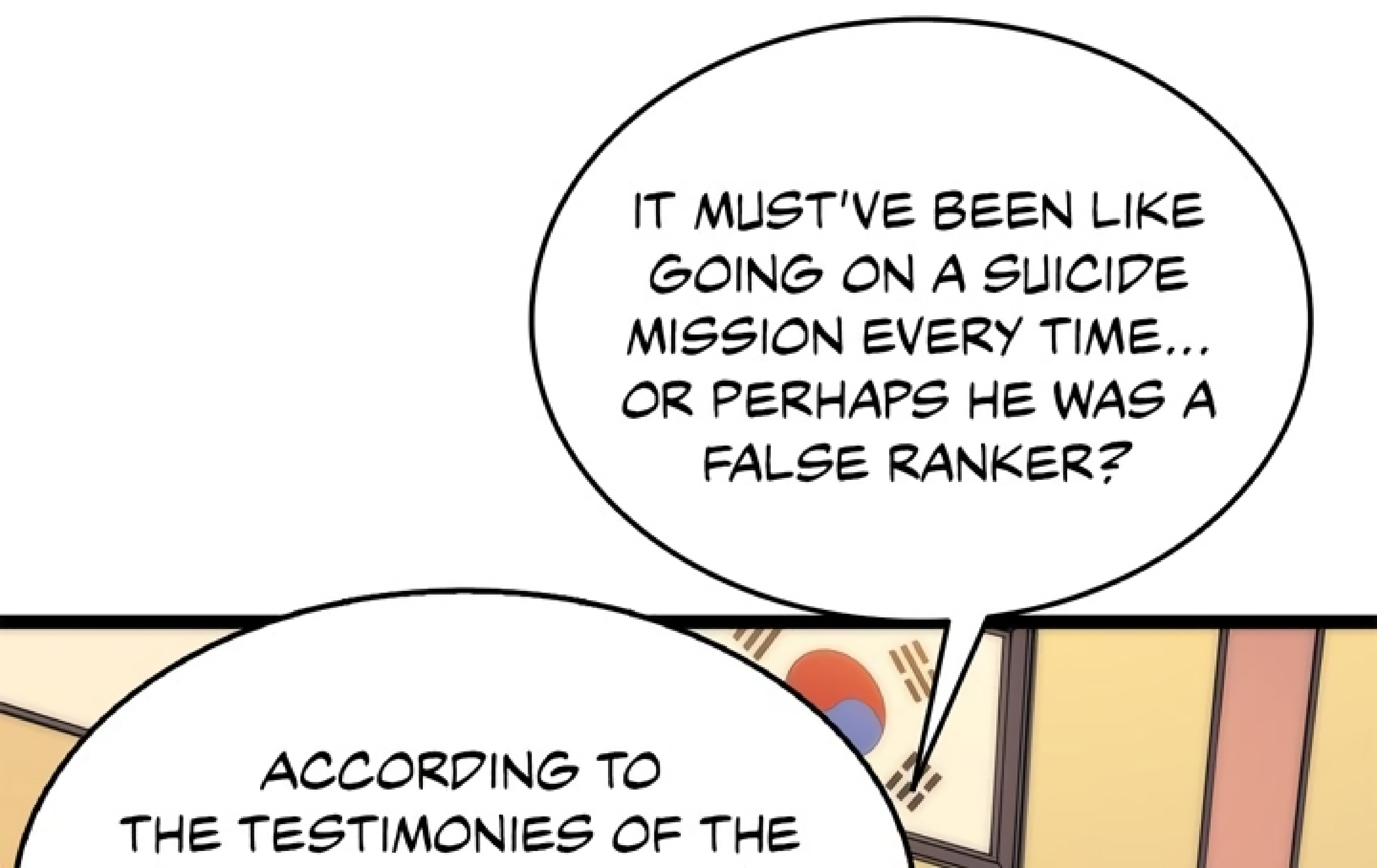

IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME TO GET MY NEW S-RANK HUNTER'S LICENSE.
CLICK
CLICK

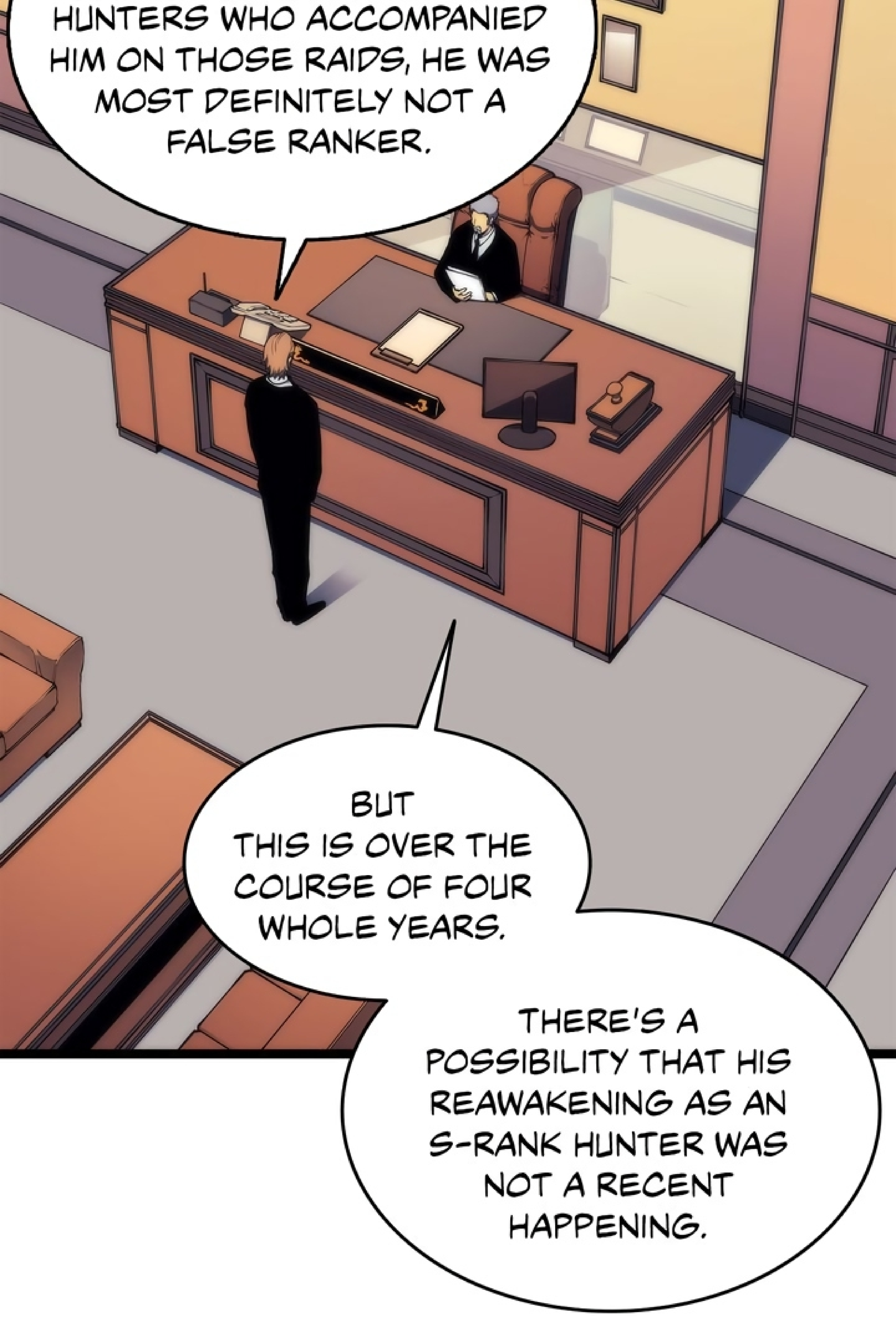

IF ONLY THERE WAS A RECORD OF ME ENTERING AN A-RANK GATE OR SOMETHING... I COULD USE THAT TO MAKE MY LISTING SEEM LESS SUSPICIOUS.
BUT I'M STILL JUST AN E-RANKER, SO NOBODY WOULD LET ME JOIN A HIGH-RANK RAID TEAM...
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

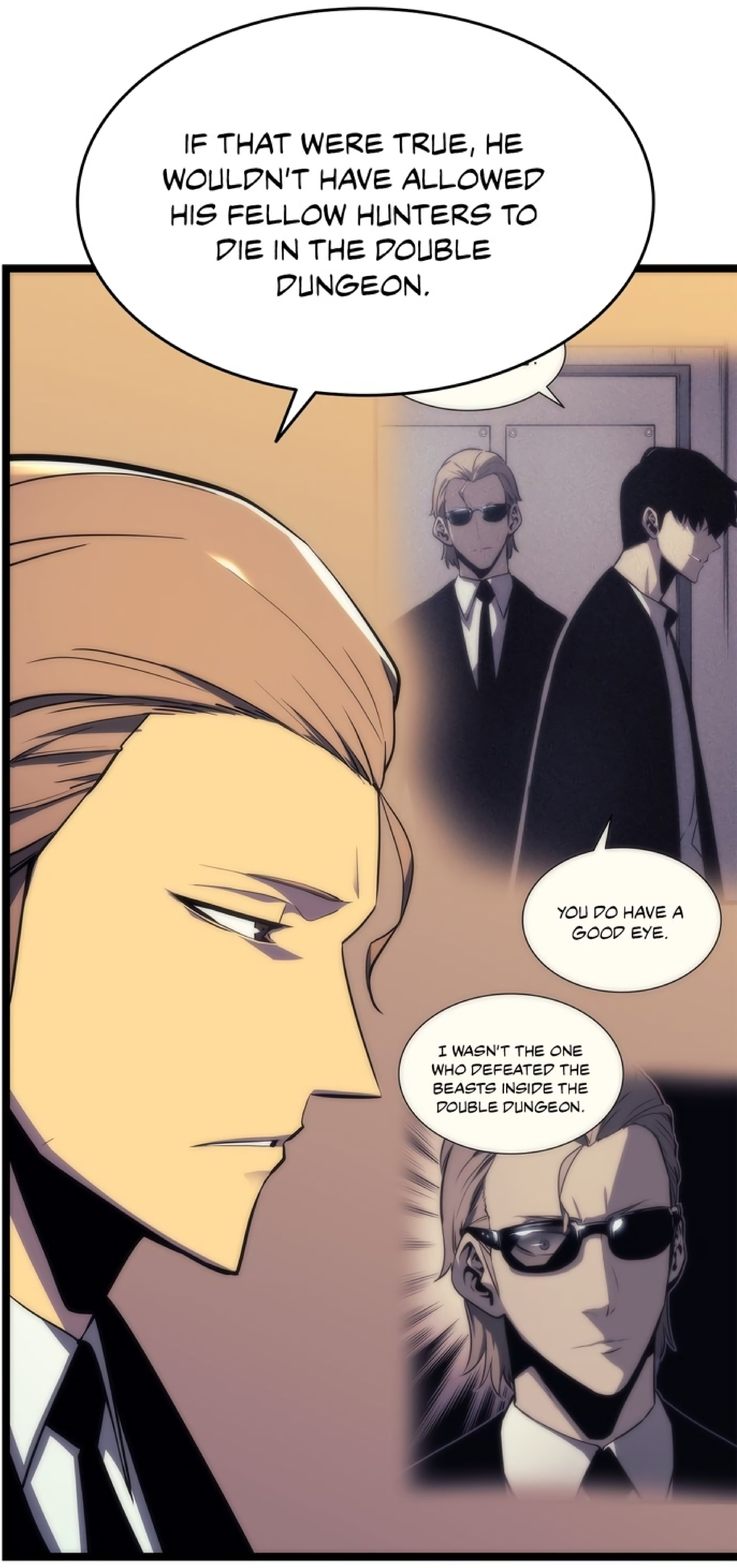

...HUH?
SOMEONE'S LOOKING TO RECRUIT A LOW-RANK HUNTER!

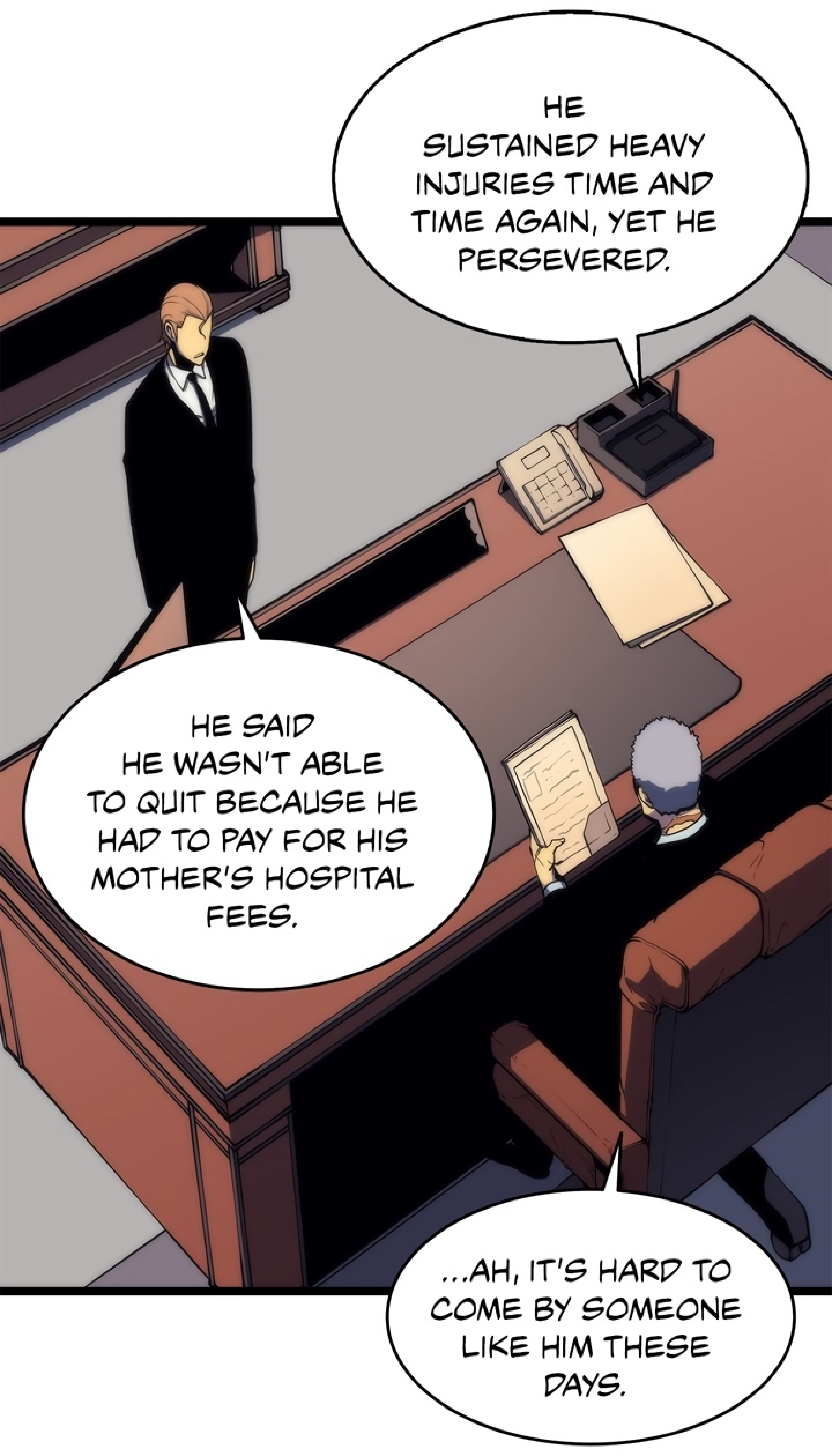

IDENTIFICA
HERE'S THE FILE YOU REQUESTED, SIR.

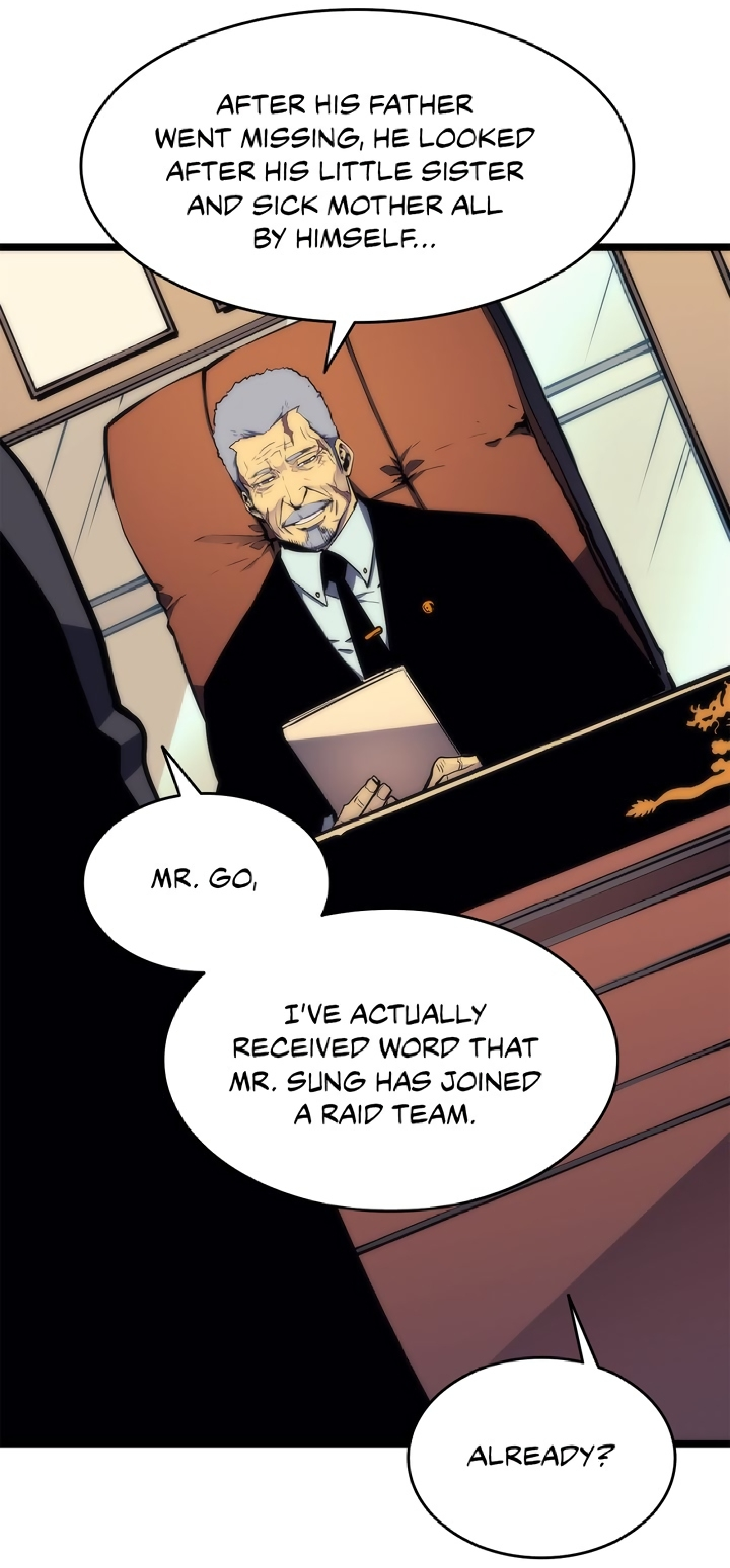

WAS THIS PHOTO TAKEN FOUR YEARS AGO?
HE LOOKS MUCH YOUNGER.
GO GUNHEE
SUNG JINWOO WAS CONSIDERED THE WEAKEST EVEN AMONG E-RANKERS. THE FILE CONTAINS HIS HUNTING RECORD FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS.

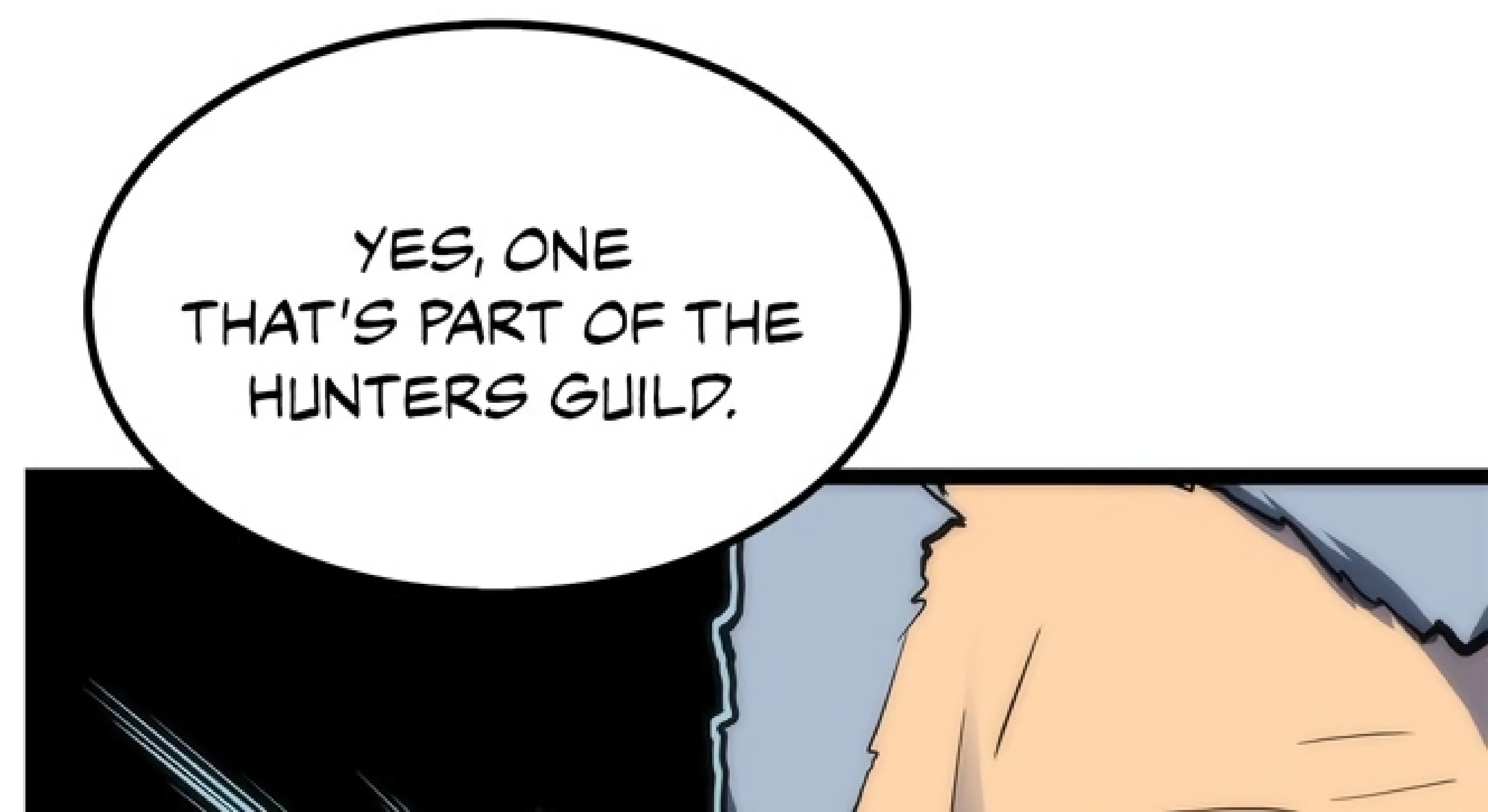

IT MUST'VE BEEN LIKE GOING ON A SUICIDE MISSION EVERY TIME... OR PERHAPS HE WAS A FALSE RANKER?
ACCORDING TO THE TESTIMONIES OF THE

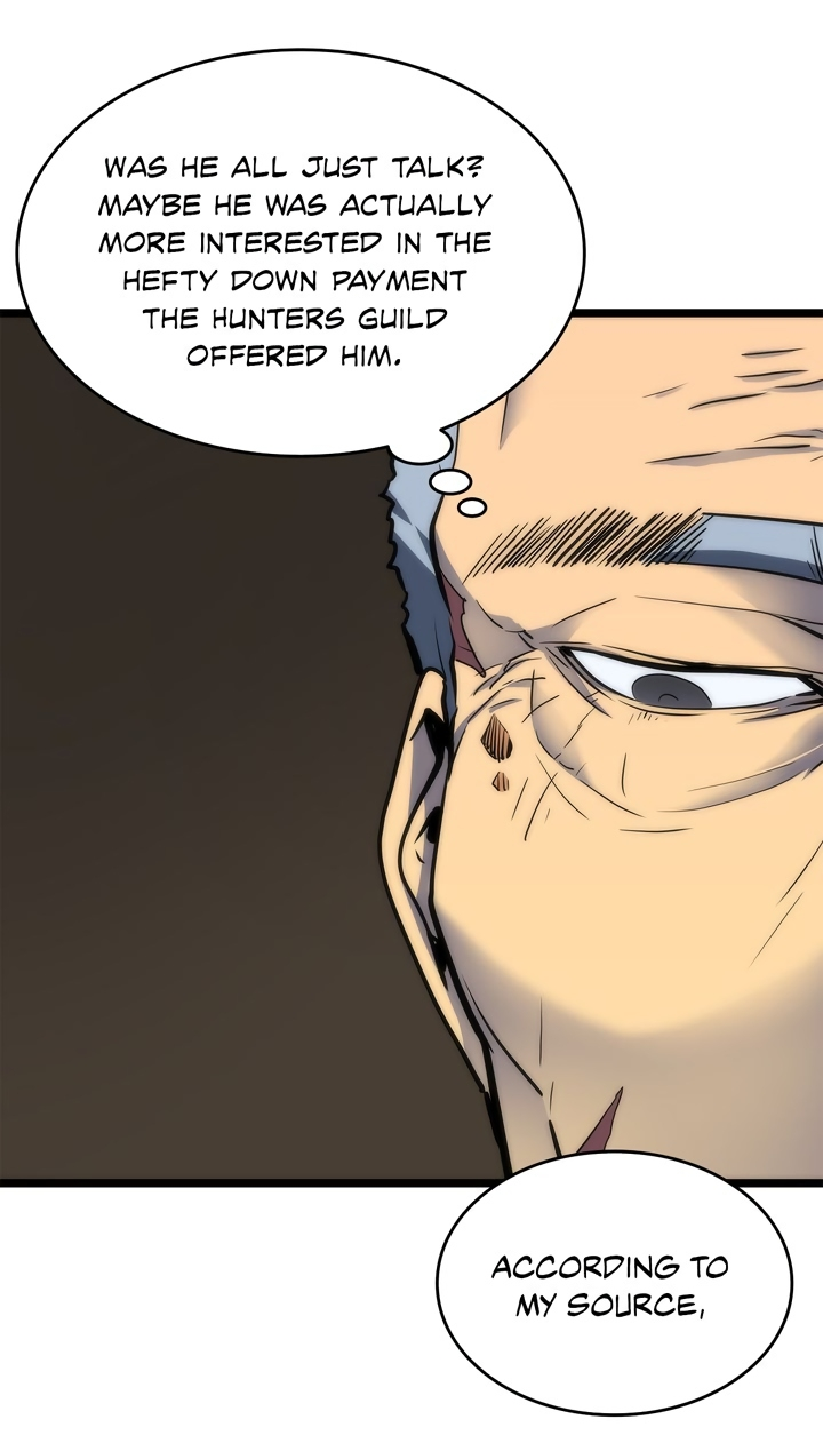

HUNTERS WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM ON THOSE RAIDS, HE WAS MOST DEFINITELY NOT A FALSE RANKER.
BUT THIS IS OVER THE COURSE OF FOUR WHOLE YEARS.
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT HIS REAWAKENING AS AN S-RANK HUNTER WAS NOT A RECENT HAPPENING.

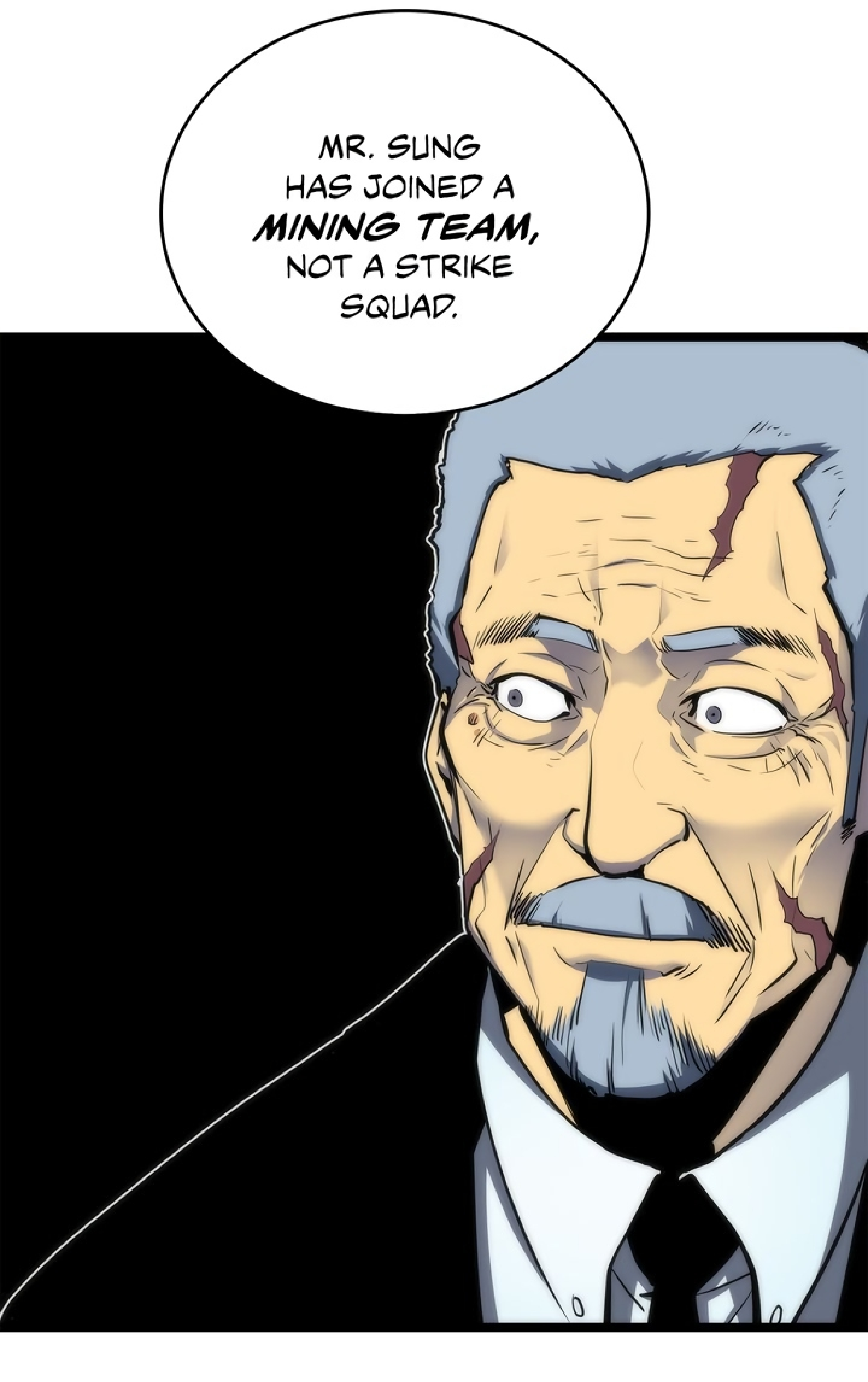

IF THAT WERE TRUE, HE WOULDN'T HAVE ALLOWED HIS FELLOW HUNTERS TO DIE IN THE DOUBLE DUNGEON.
YOU DO HAVE A GOOD EYE.
I WASN'T THE ONE WHO DEFEATED THE BEASTS INSIDE THE DOUBLE DUNGEON.

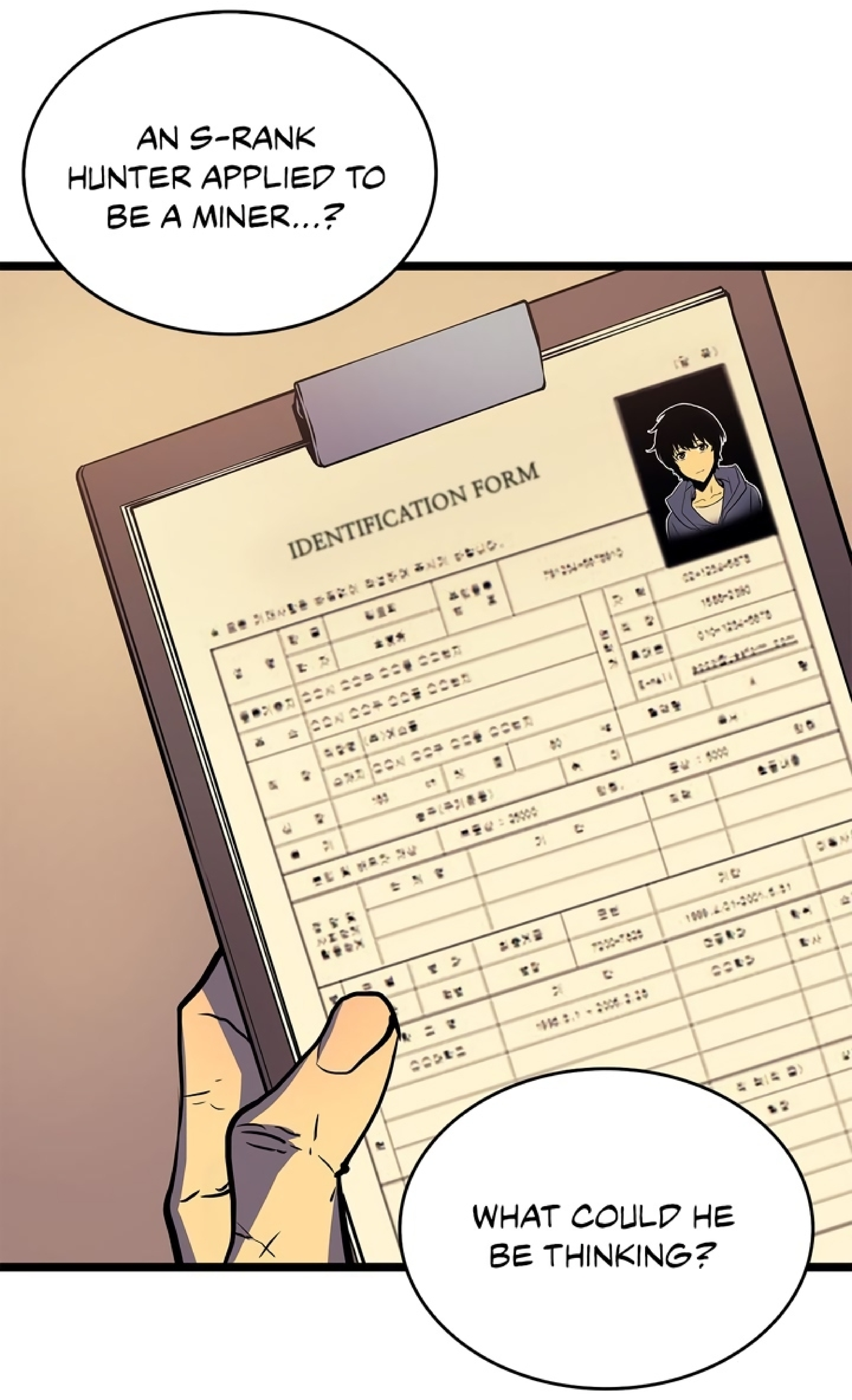

HE SUSTAINED HEAVY INJURIES TIME AND TIME AGAIN, YET HE PERSEVERED.
HE SAID HE WASN'T ABLE TO QUIT BECAUSE HE HAD TO PAY FOR HIS MOTHER'S HOSPITAL FEES.
...AH, IT'S HARD TO COME BY SOMEONE LIKE HIM THESE DAYS.

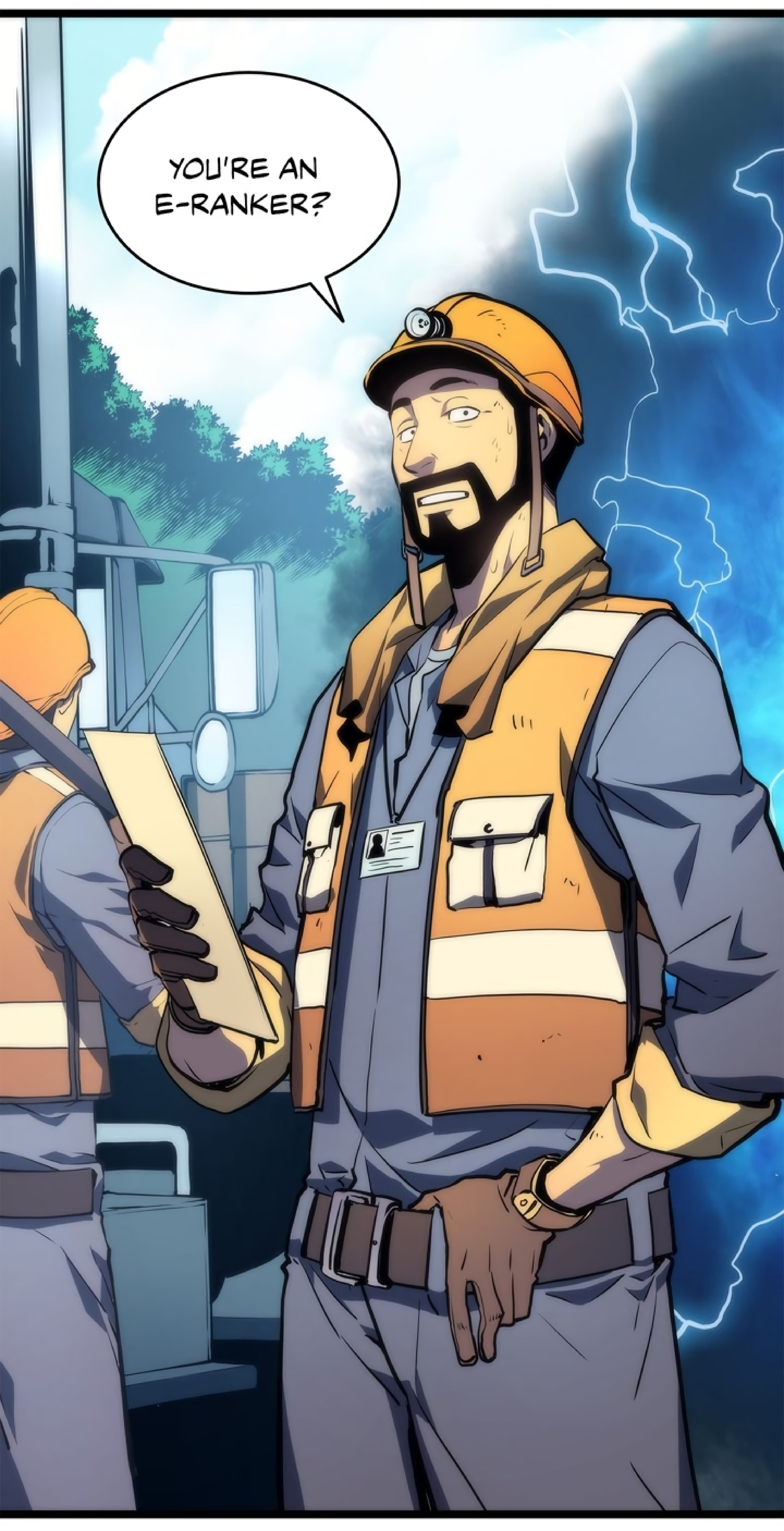

AFTER HIS FATHER WENT MISSING, HE LOOKED AFTER HIS LITTLE SISTER AND SICK MOTHER ALL BY HIMSELF...
MR. GO,
I'VE ACTUALLY RECEIVED WORD THAT MR. SUNG HAS JOINED A RAID TEAM.
ALREADY?

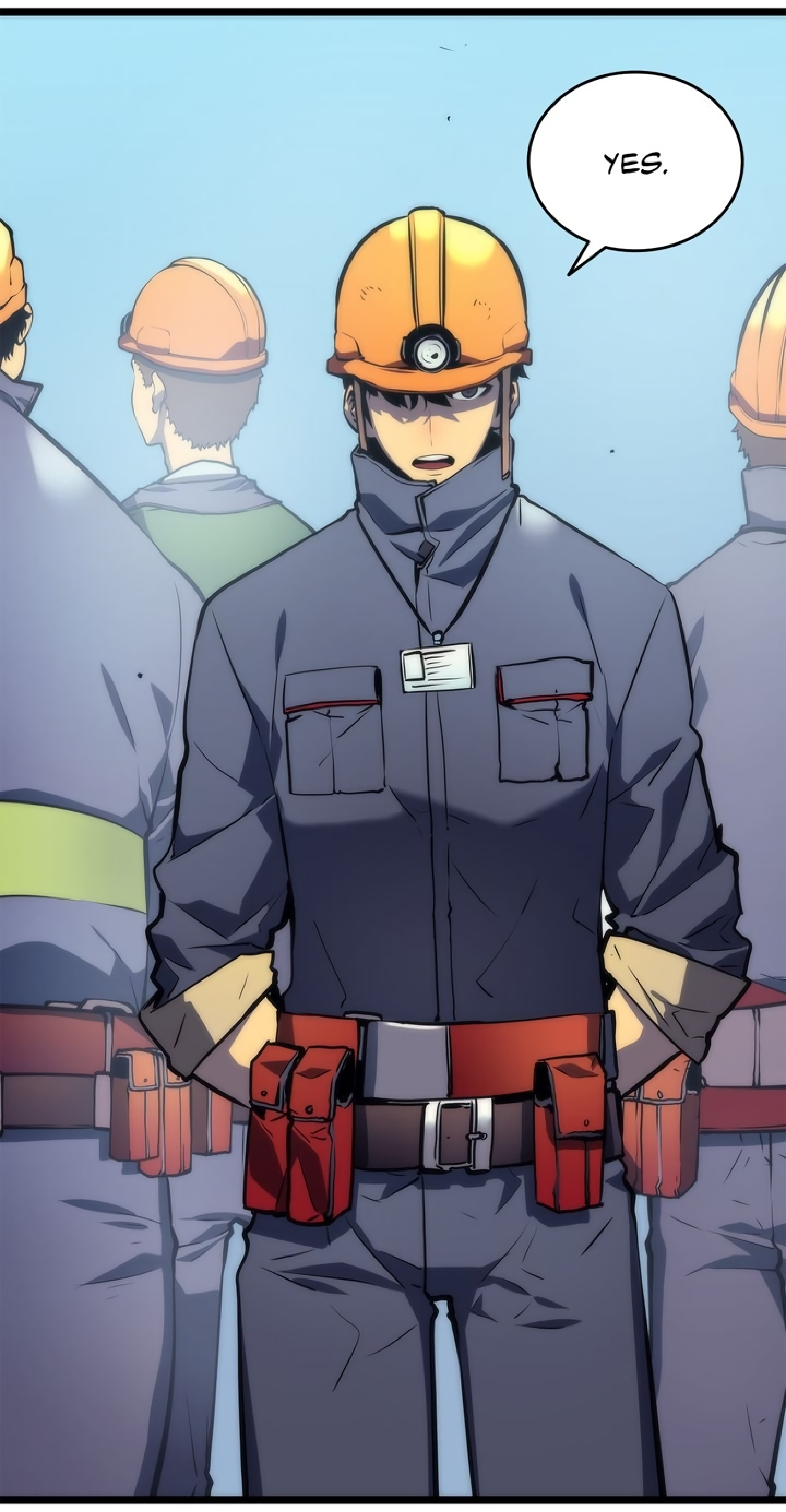

YES, ONE THAT'S PART OF THE HUNTERS GUILD.

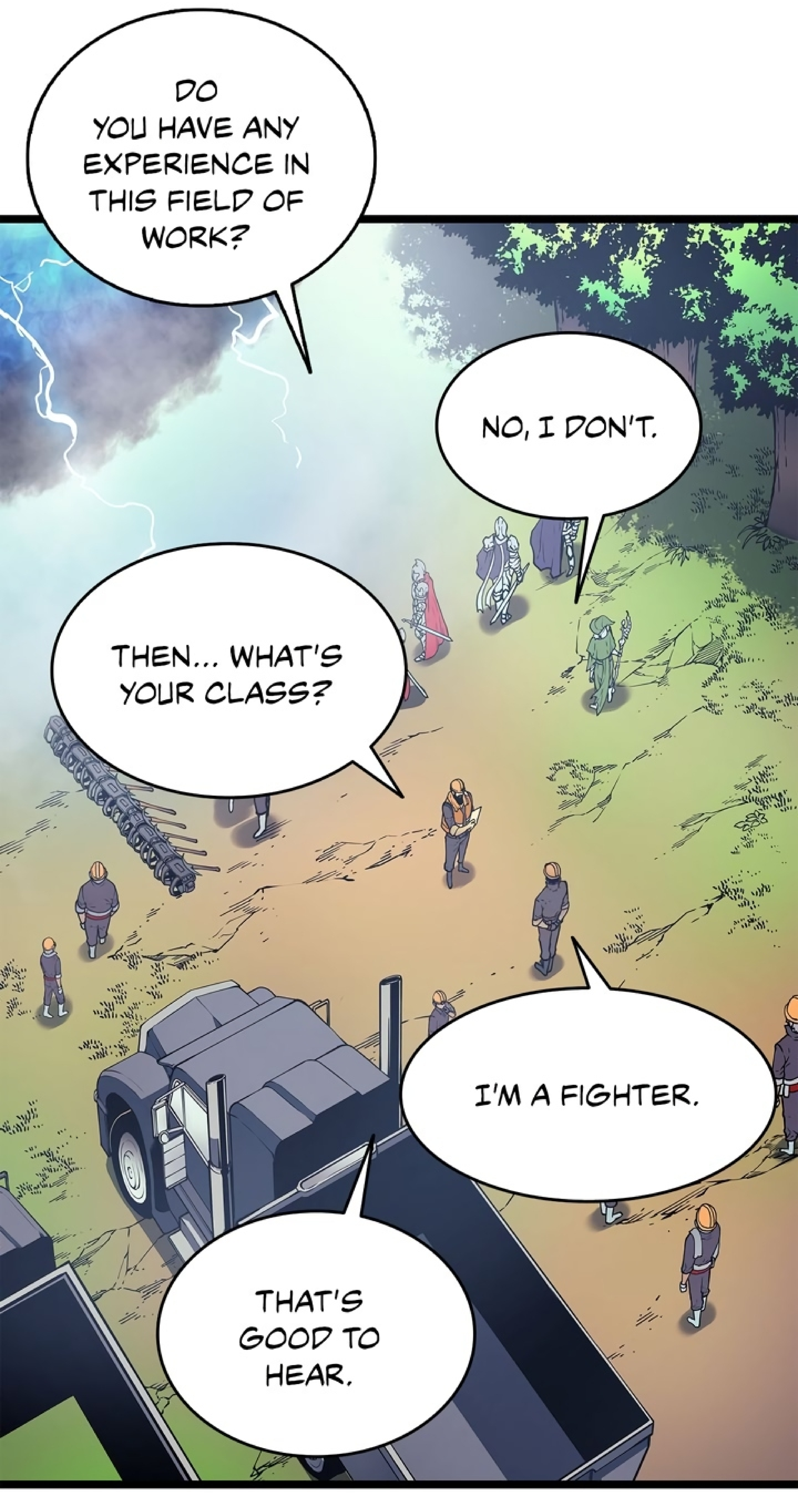

WAS HE ALL JUST TALK? MAYBE HE WAS ACTUALLY MORE INTERESTED IN THE HEFTY DOWN PAYMENT THE HUNTERS GUILD OFFERED HIM.
ACCORDING TO MY SOURCE,

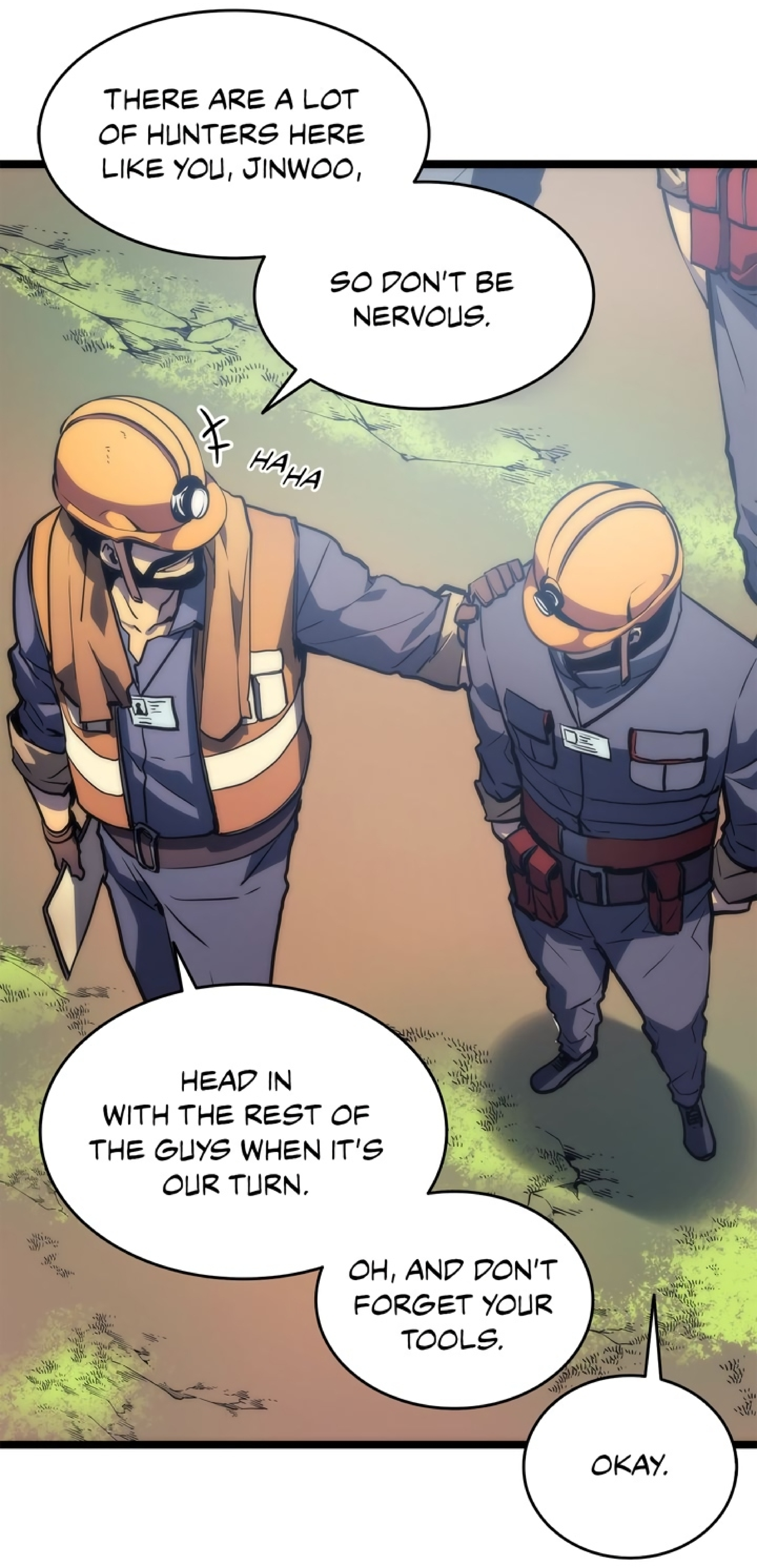

MR. SUNG HAS JOINED A ***MINING TEAM,*** NOT A STRIKE SQUAD.

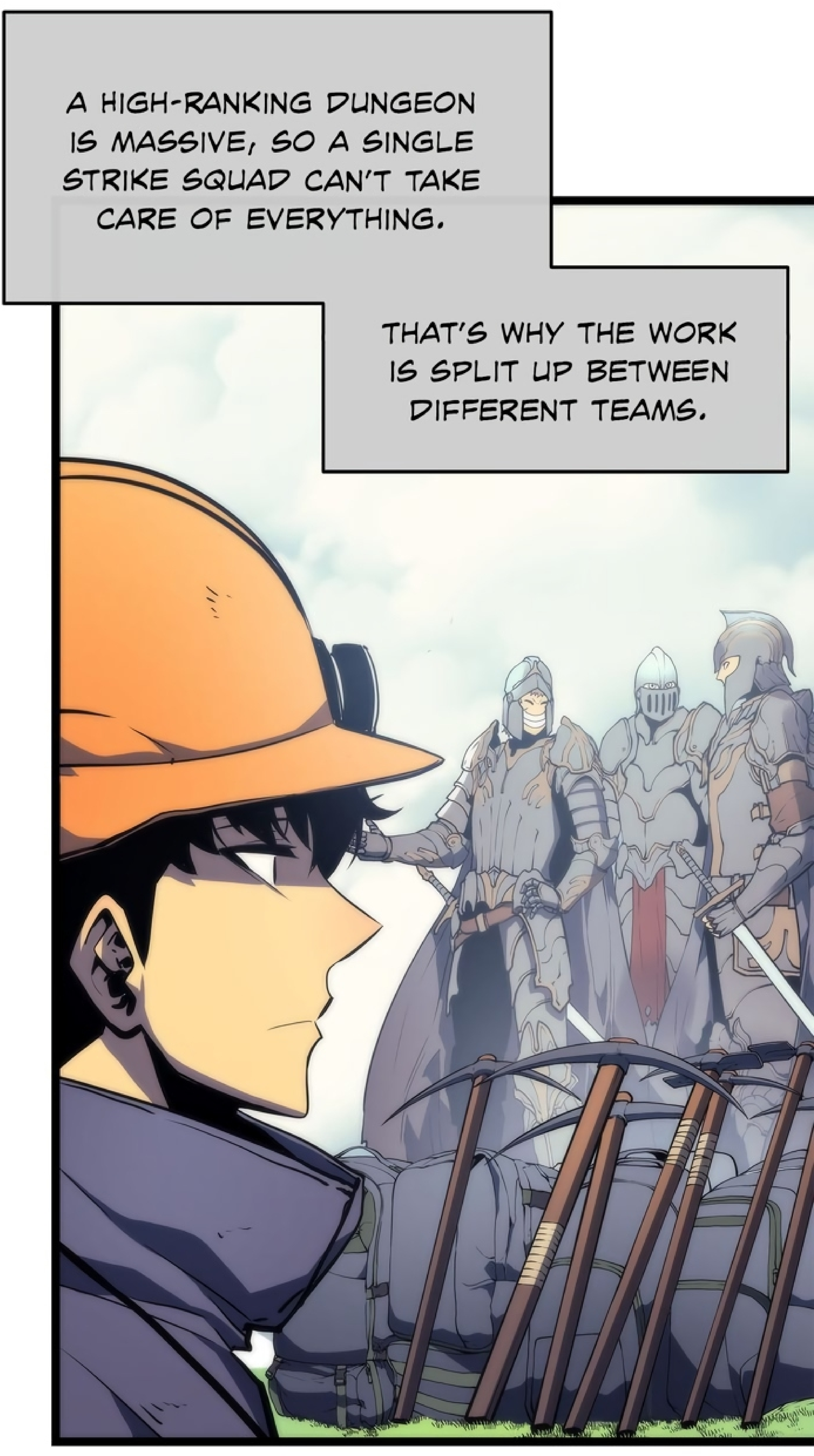

AN S-RANK HUNTER APPLIED TO BE A MINER...?
IDENTIFICATION FORM
WHAT COULD HE BE THINKING?

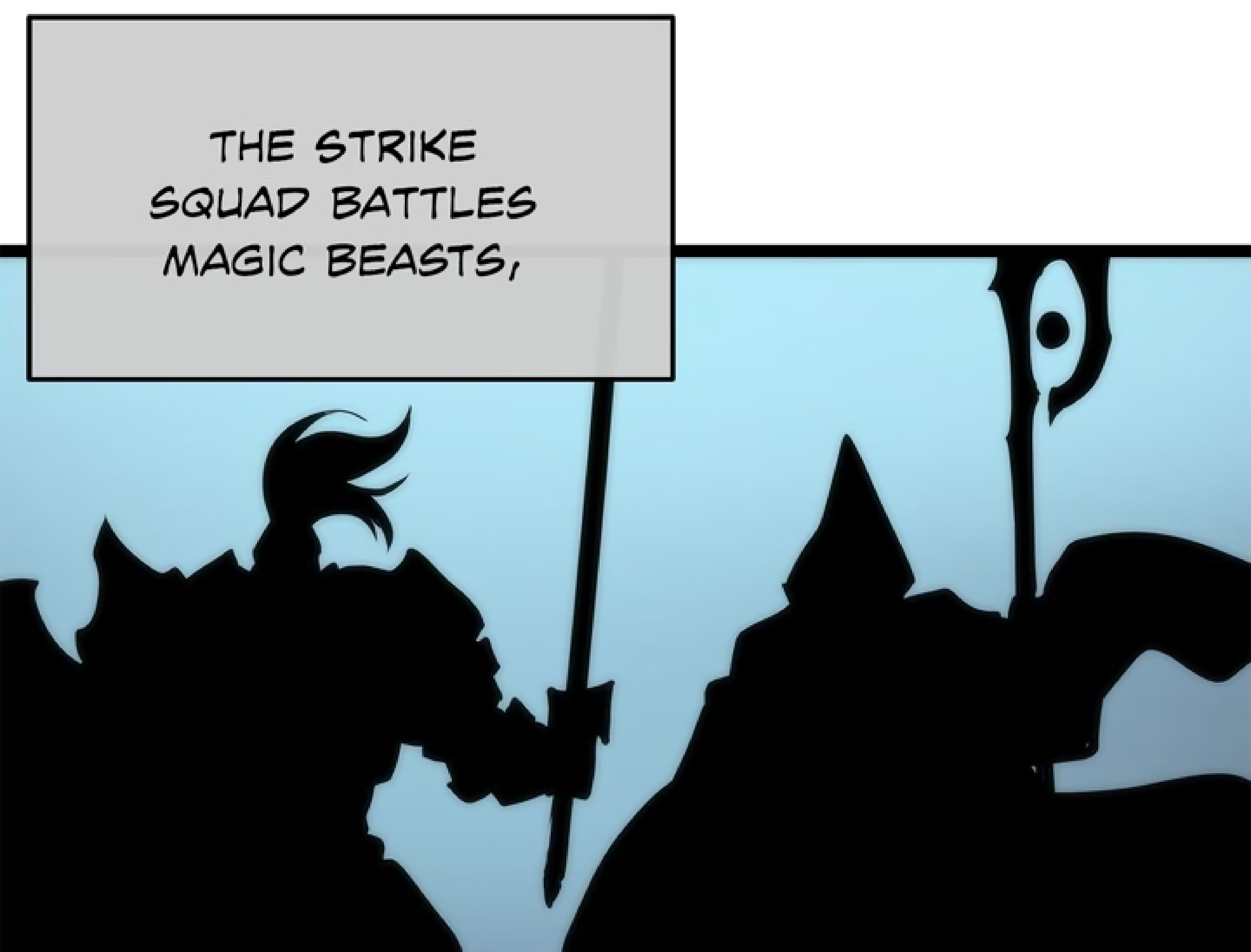

YOU'RE AN E-RANKER?

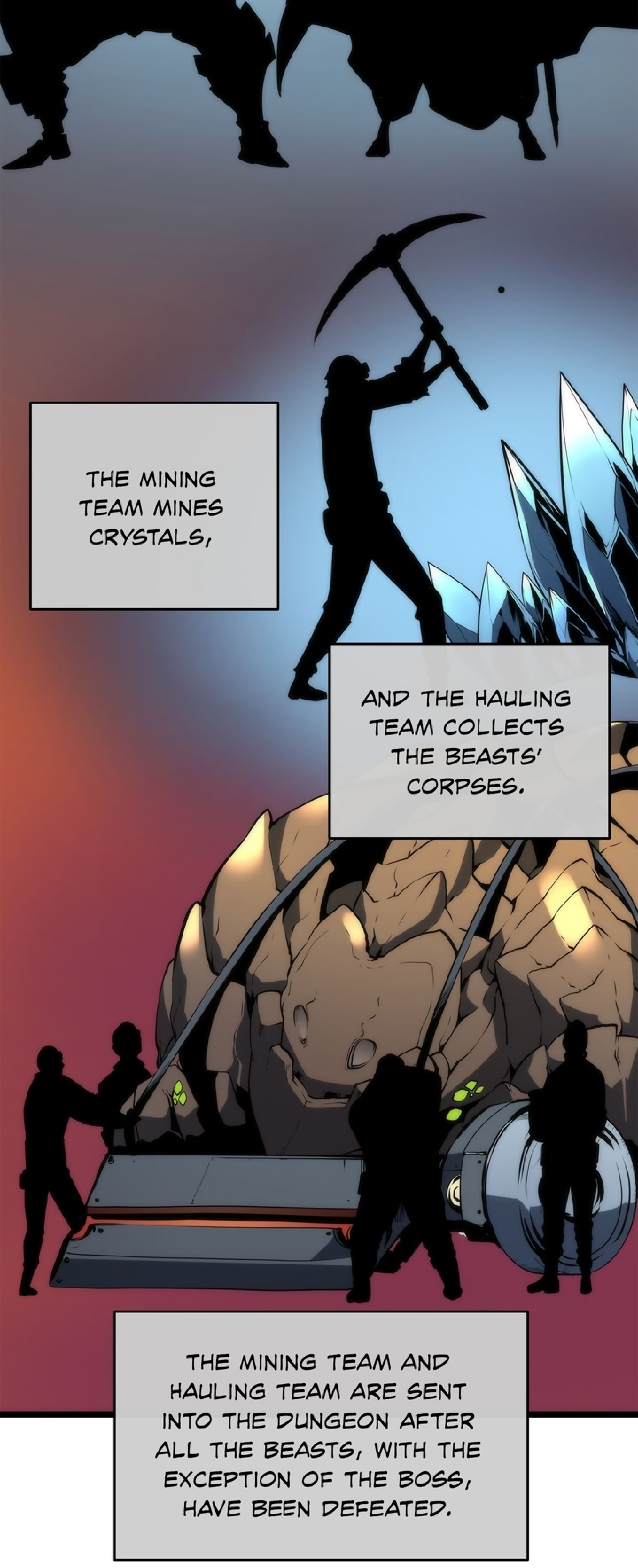

YES.

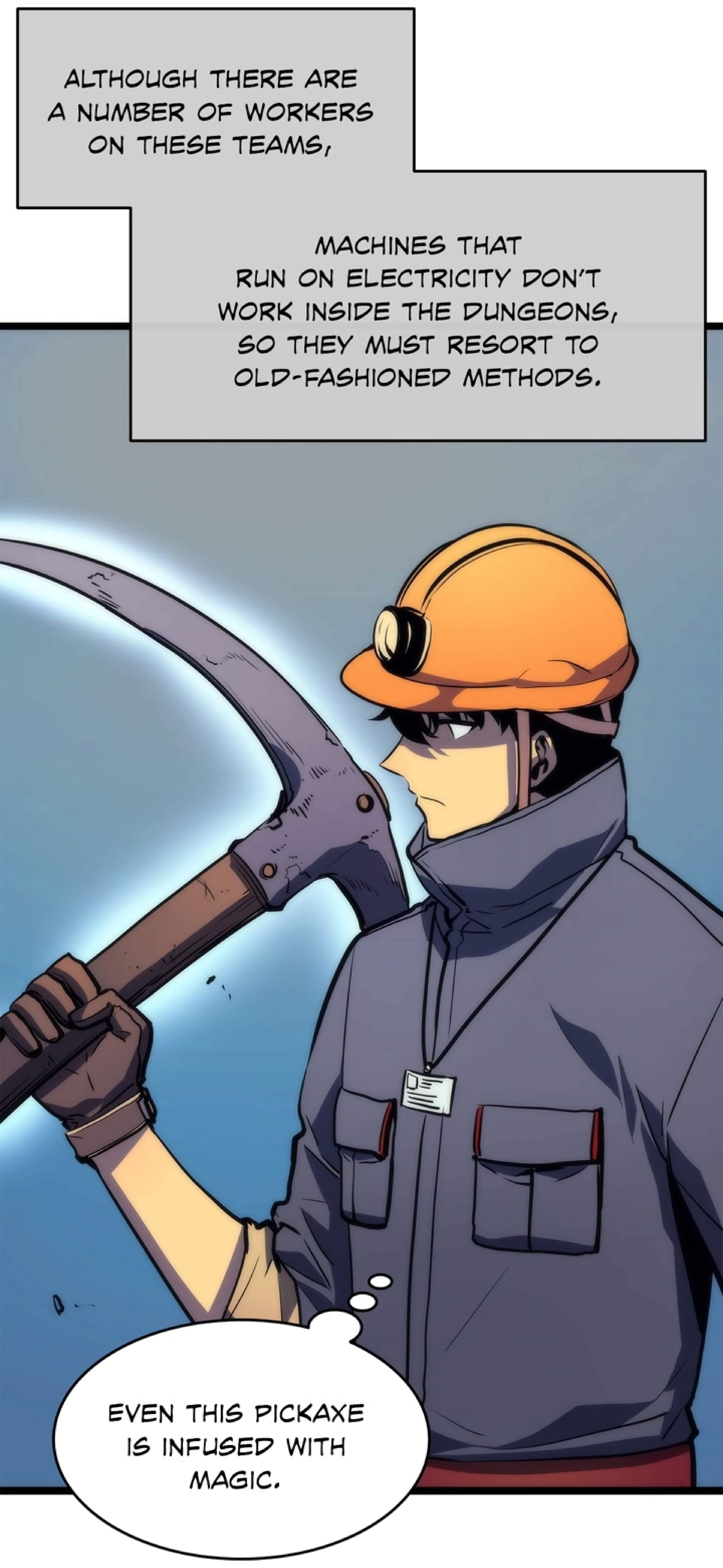

DO YOU HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD OF WORK?
NO, I DON'T.
THEN... WHAT'S YOUR CLASS?
I'M A FIGHTER.
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

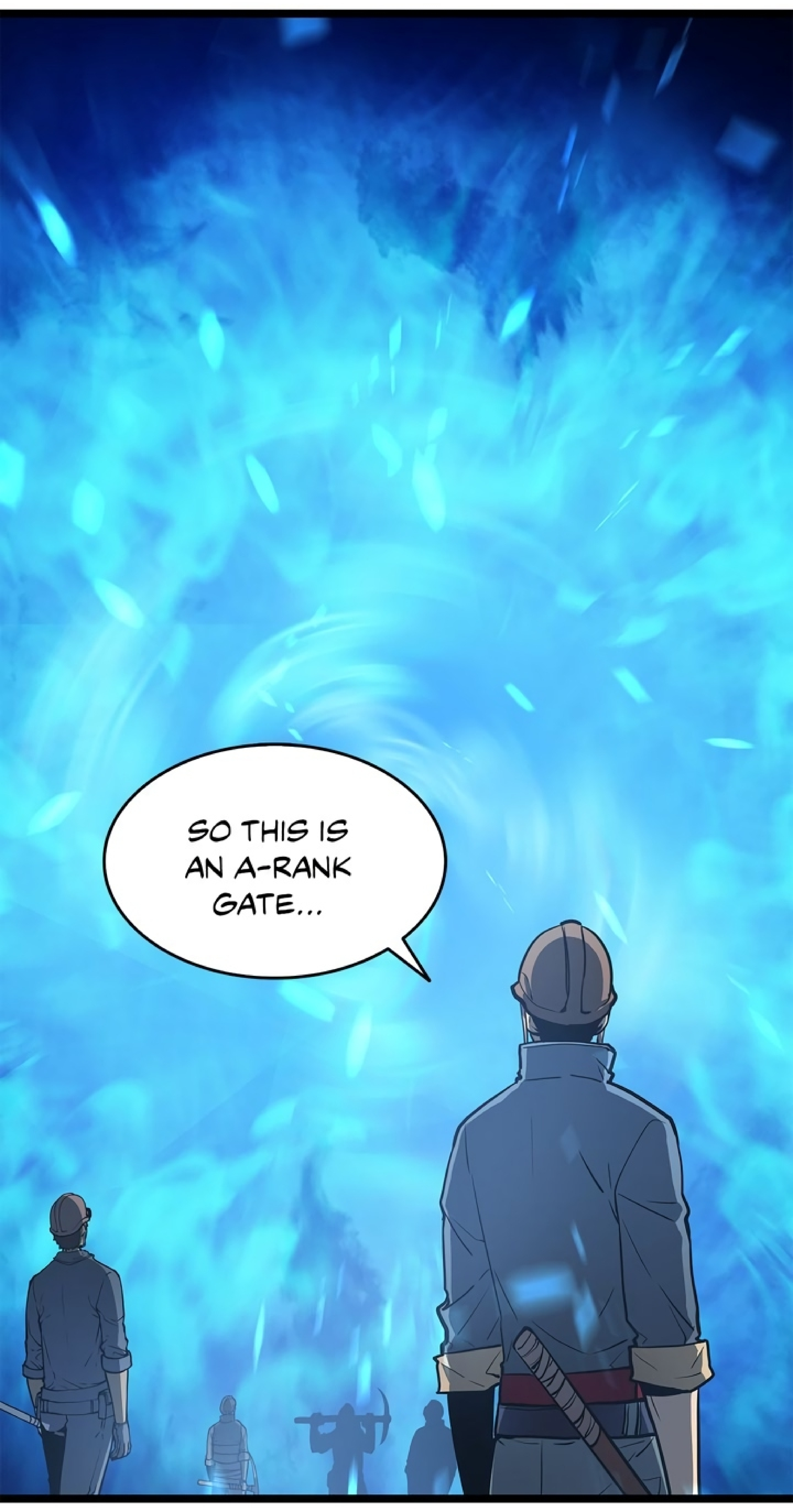

THERE ARE A LOT OF HUNTERS HERE LIKE YOU, JINWOO,
SO DON'T BE NERVOUS.
HAHA
HEAD IN WITH THE REST OF THE GUYS WHEN IT'S OUR TURN.
OH, AND DON'T FORGET YOUR TOOLS.
OKAY.

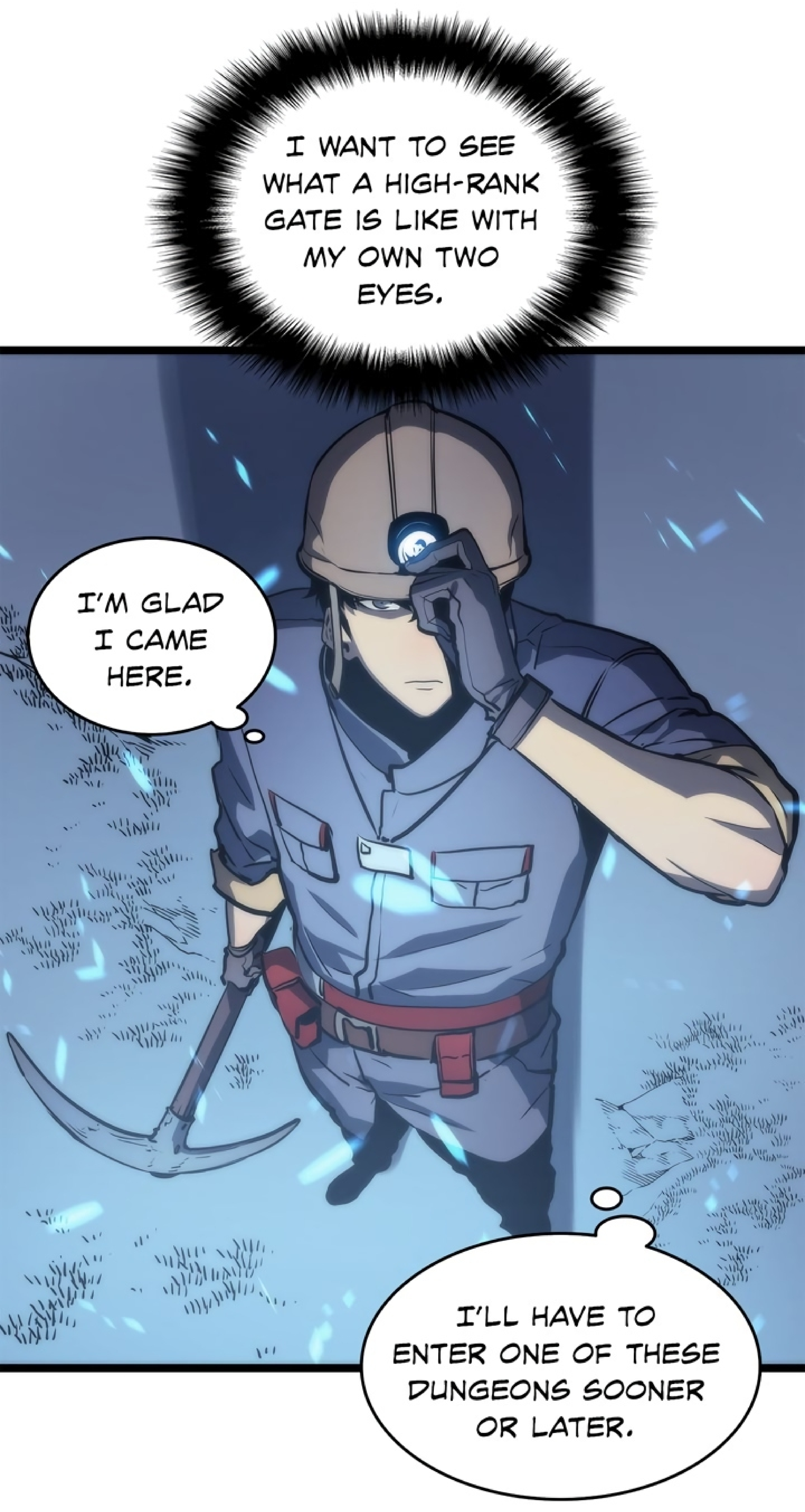

A HIGH-RANKING DUNGEON IS MASSIVE, SO A SINGLE STRIKE SQUAD CAN'T TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING.
THAT'S WHY THE WORK IS SPLIT UP BETWEEN DIFFERENT TEAMS.

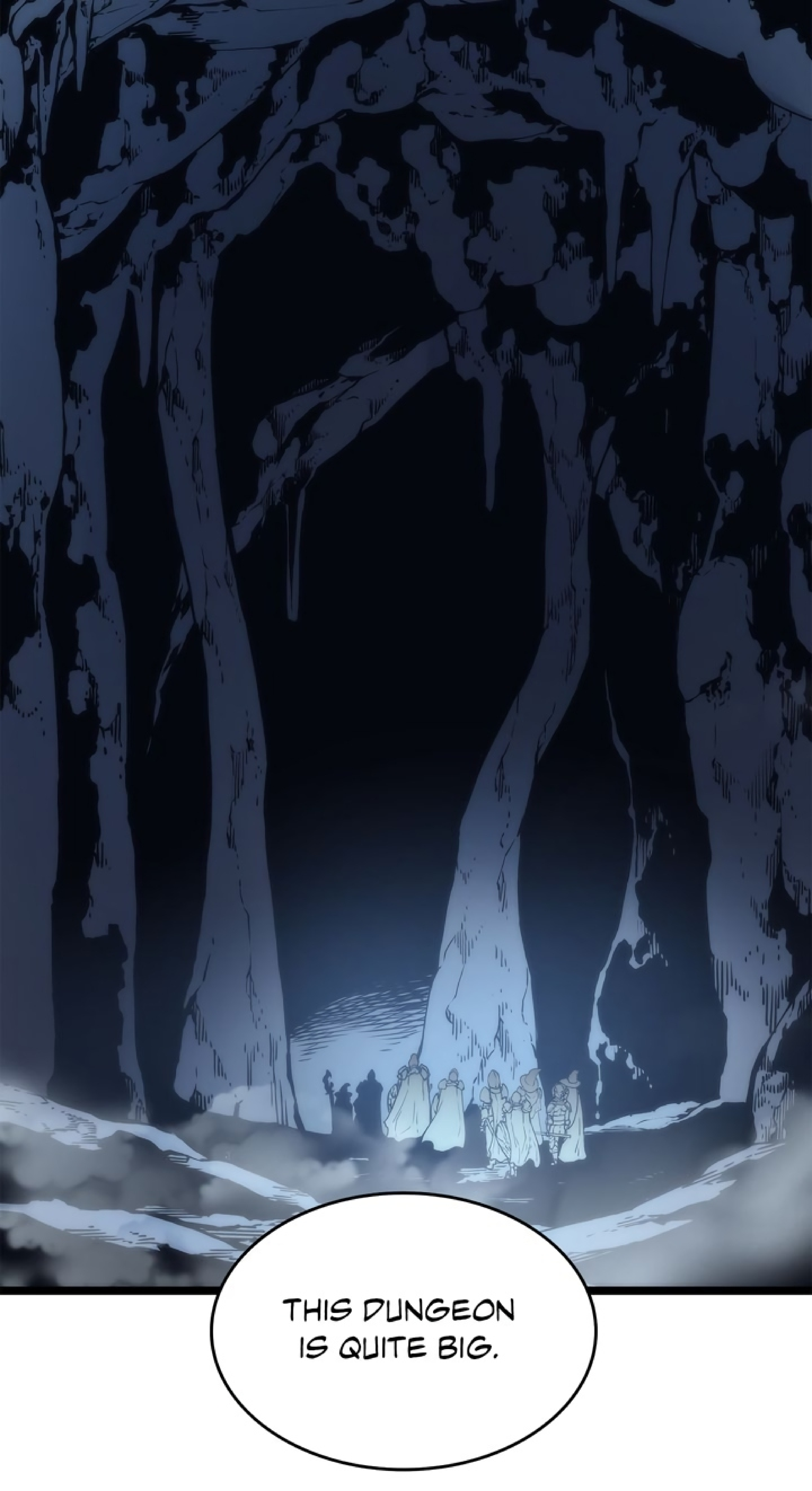

THE STRIKE SQUAD BATTLES MAGIC BEASTS,

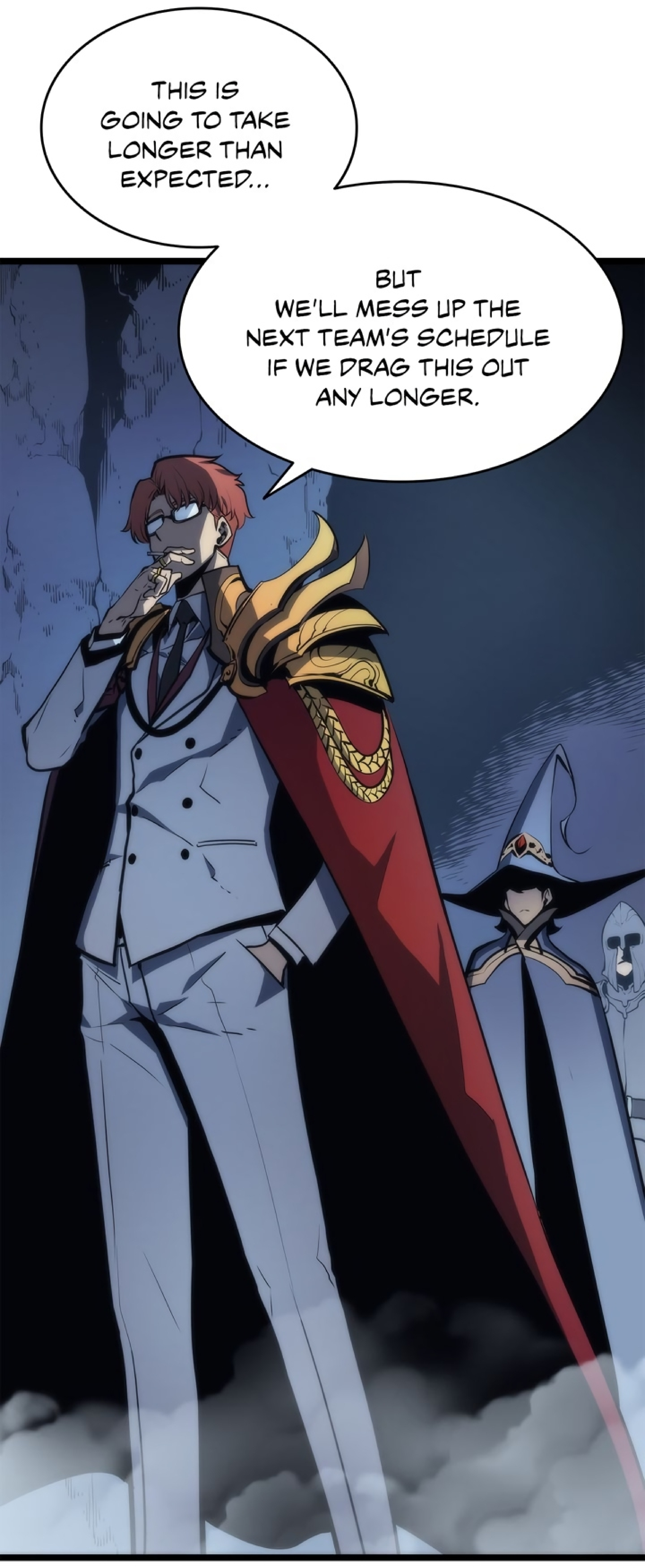

THE MINING TEAM MINES CRYSTALS,
AND THE HAULING TEAM COLLECTS THE BEASTS' CORPSES.
THE MINING TEAM AND HAULING TEAM ARE SENT INTO THE DUNGEON AFTER ALL THE BEASTS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE BOSS, HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.

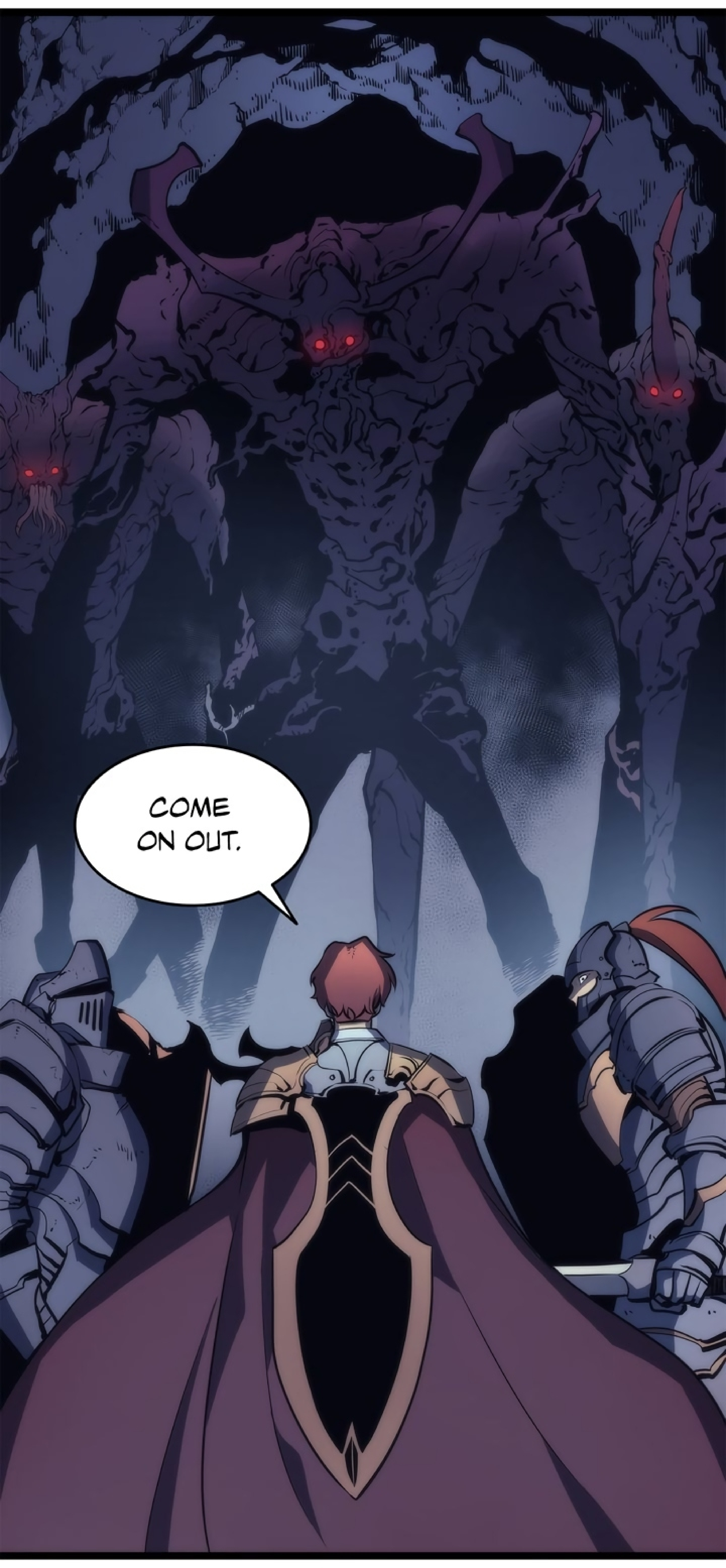

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WORKERS ON THESE TEAMS,
MACHINES THAT RUN ON ELECTRICITY DON'T WORK INSIDE THE DUNGEONS, SO THEY MUST RESORT TO OLD-FASHIONED METHODS.
EVEN THIS PICKAXE IS INFUSED WITH MAGIC.

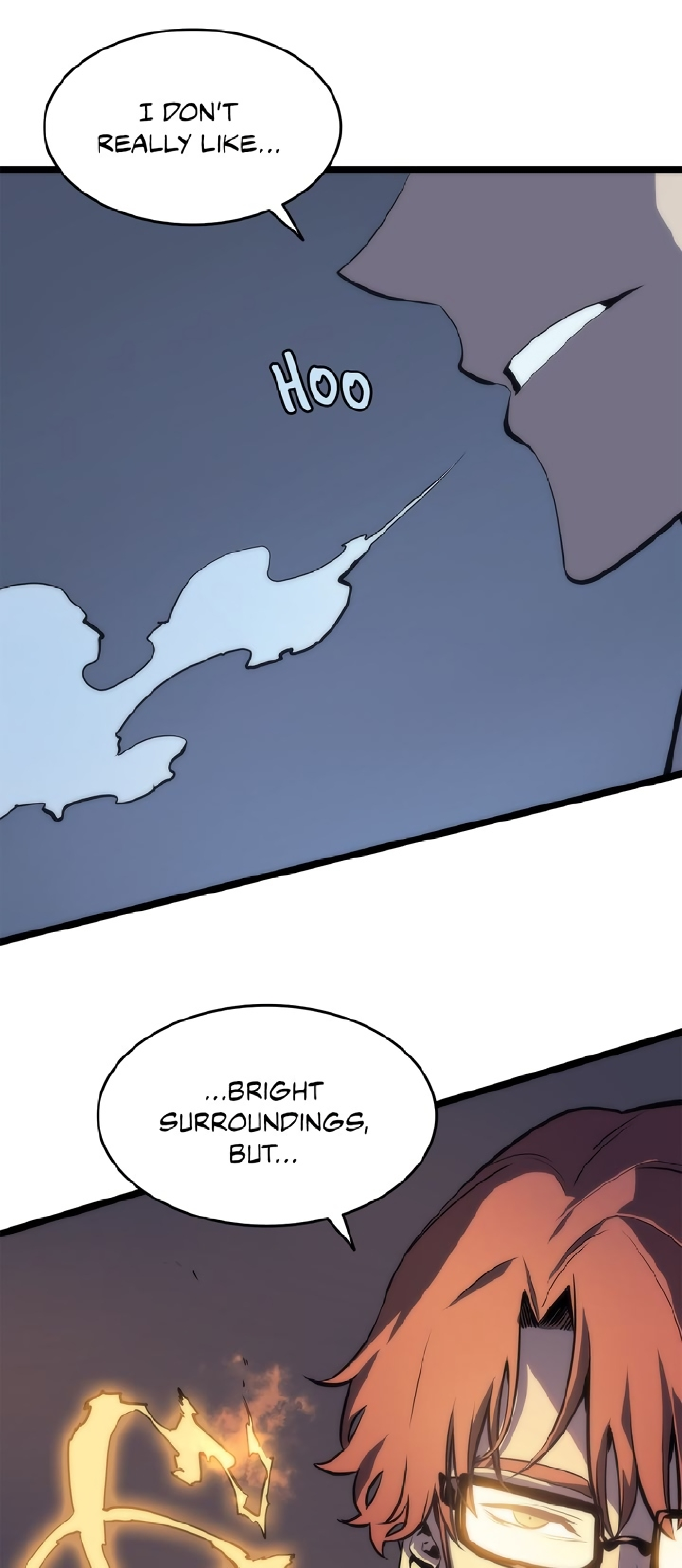

SO THIS IS AN A-RANK GATE...


I WANT TO SEE WHAT A HIGH-RANK GATE IS LIKE WITH MY OWN TWO EYES.
I'M GLAD I CAME HERE.
I'LL HAVE TO ENTER ONE OF THESE DUNGEONS SOONER OR LATER.

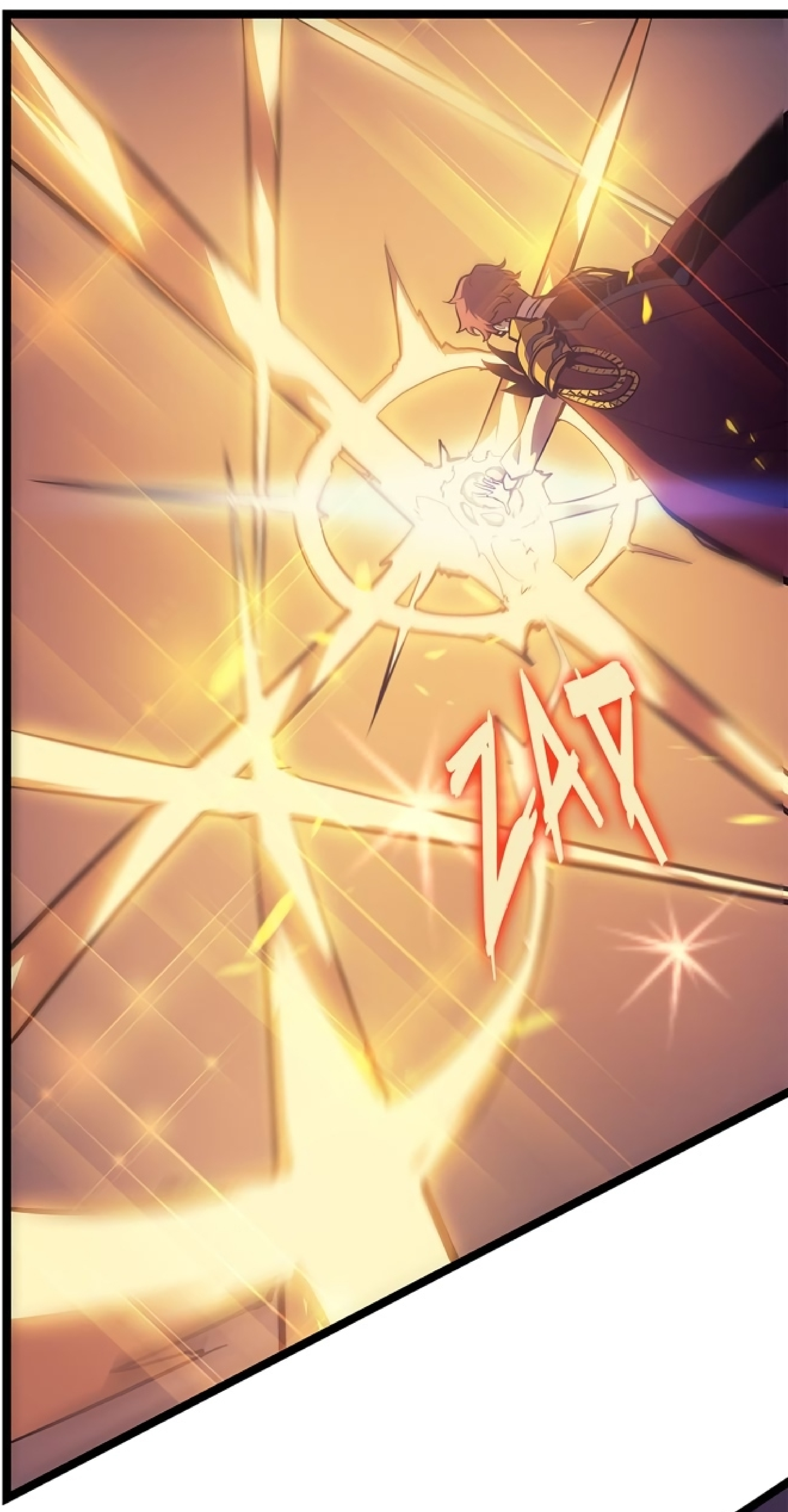

THIS DUNGEON IS QUITE BIG.


THIS IS GOING TO TAKE LONGER THAN EXPECTED...
BUT WE'LL MESS UP THE NEXT TEAM'S SCHEDULE IF WE DRAG THIS OUT ANY LONGER.


COME ON OUT.


I DON'T REALLY LIKE...
HOO
...BRIGHT SURROUNDINGS, BUT...

SPARK

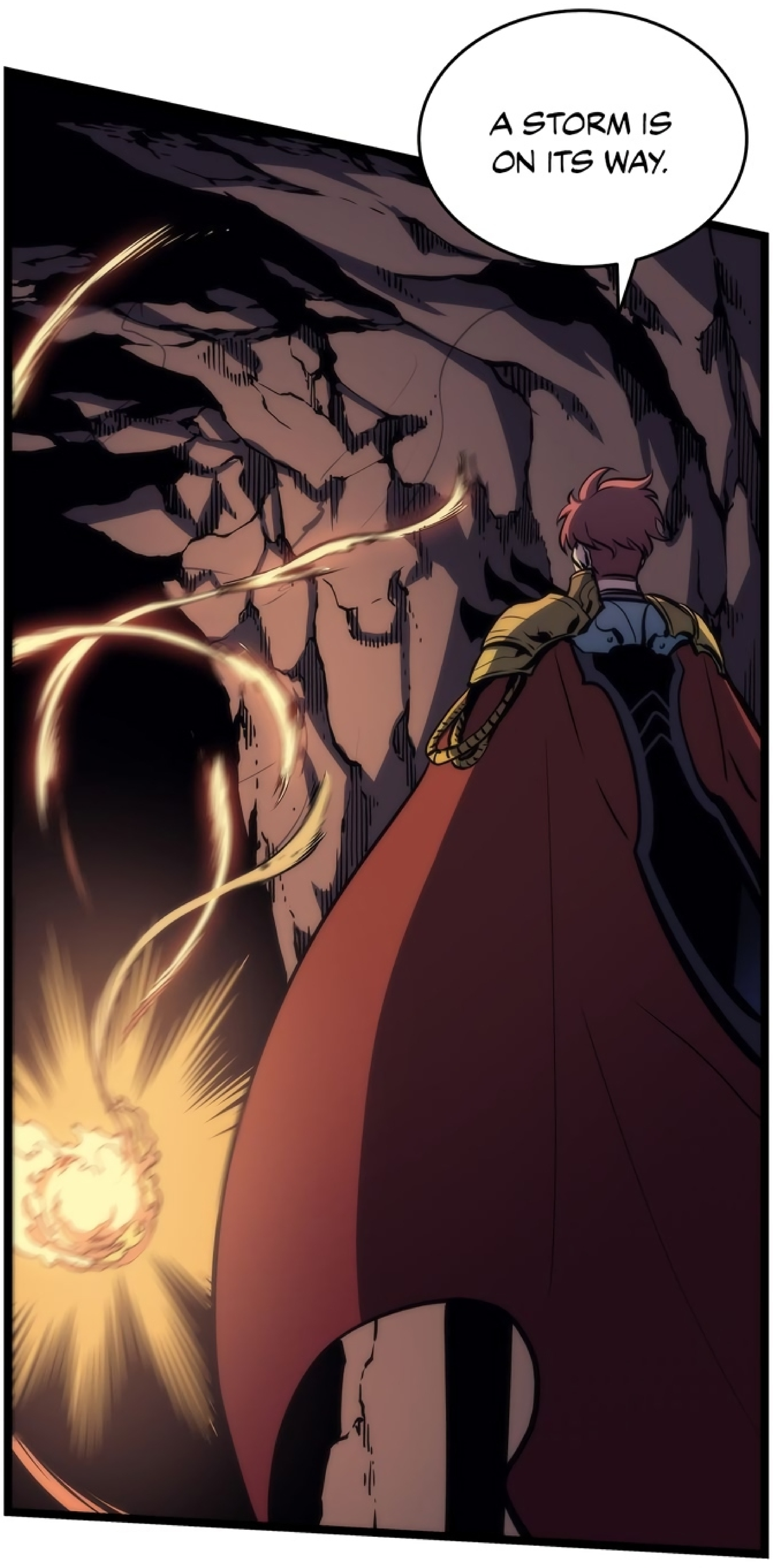

ZAP

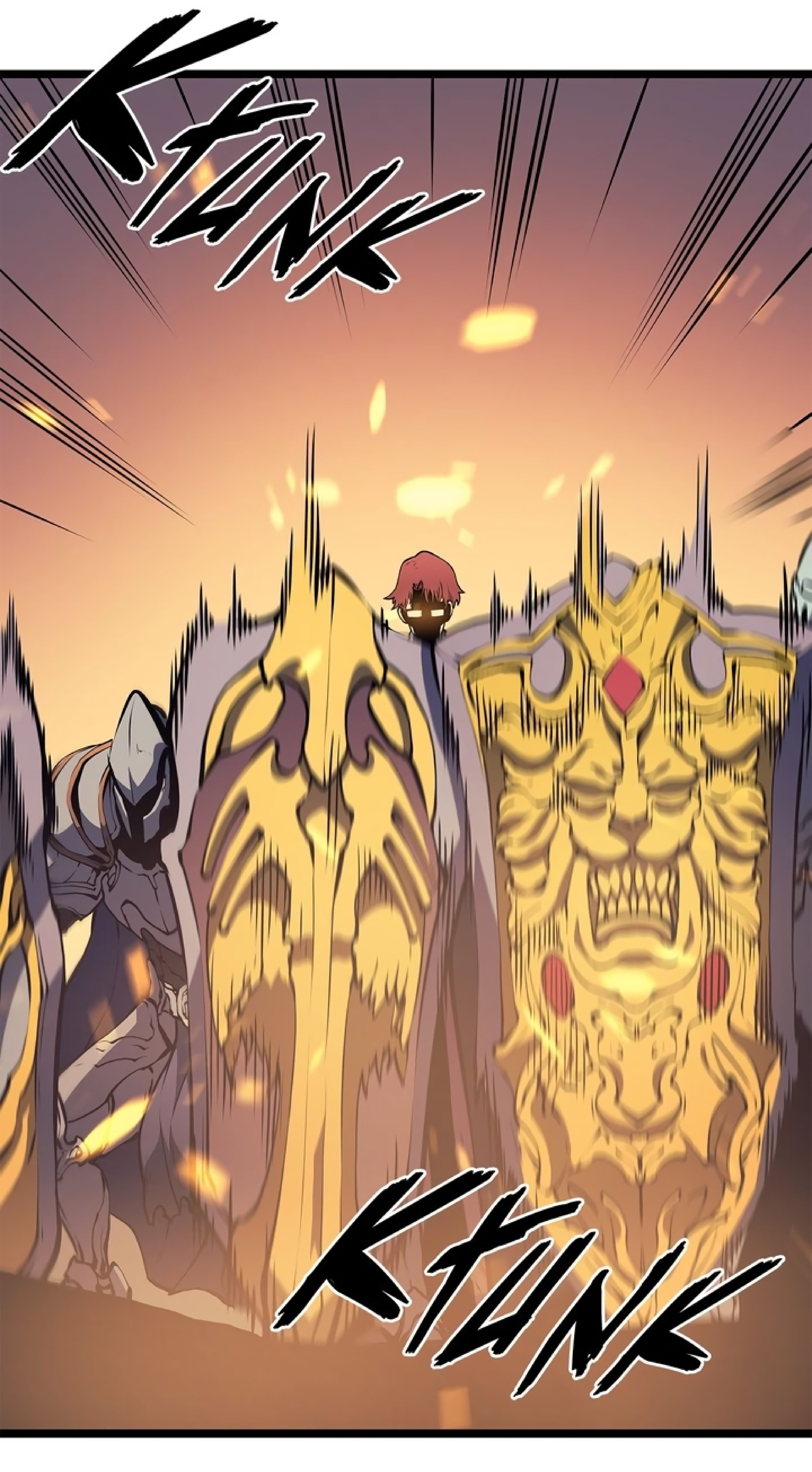
FWOOOSH

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

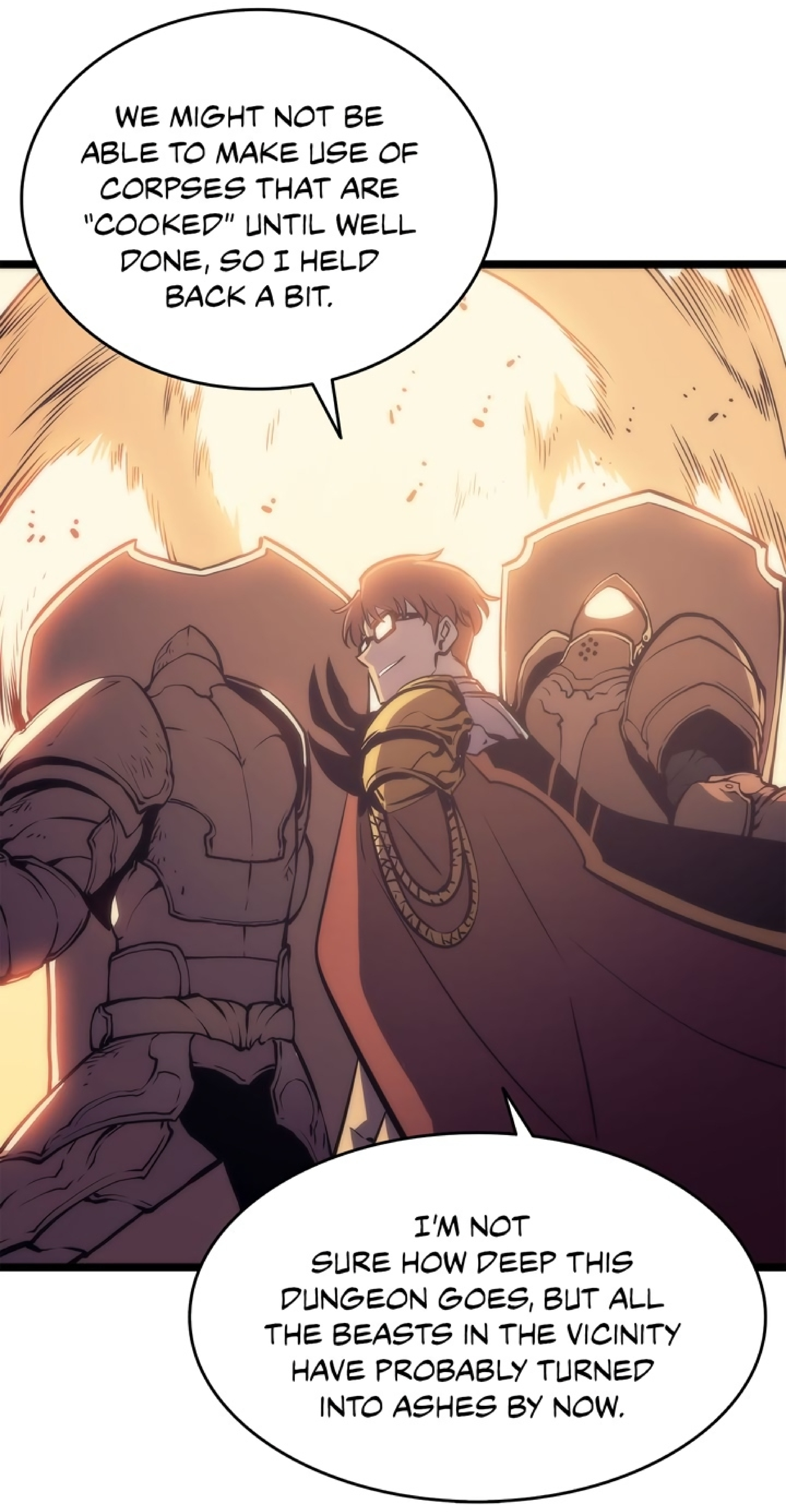
TANKS, GET READY.
SWISH

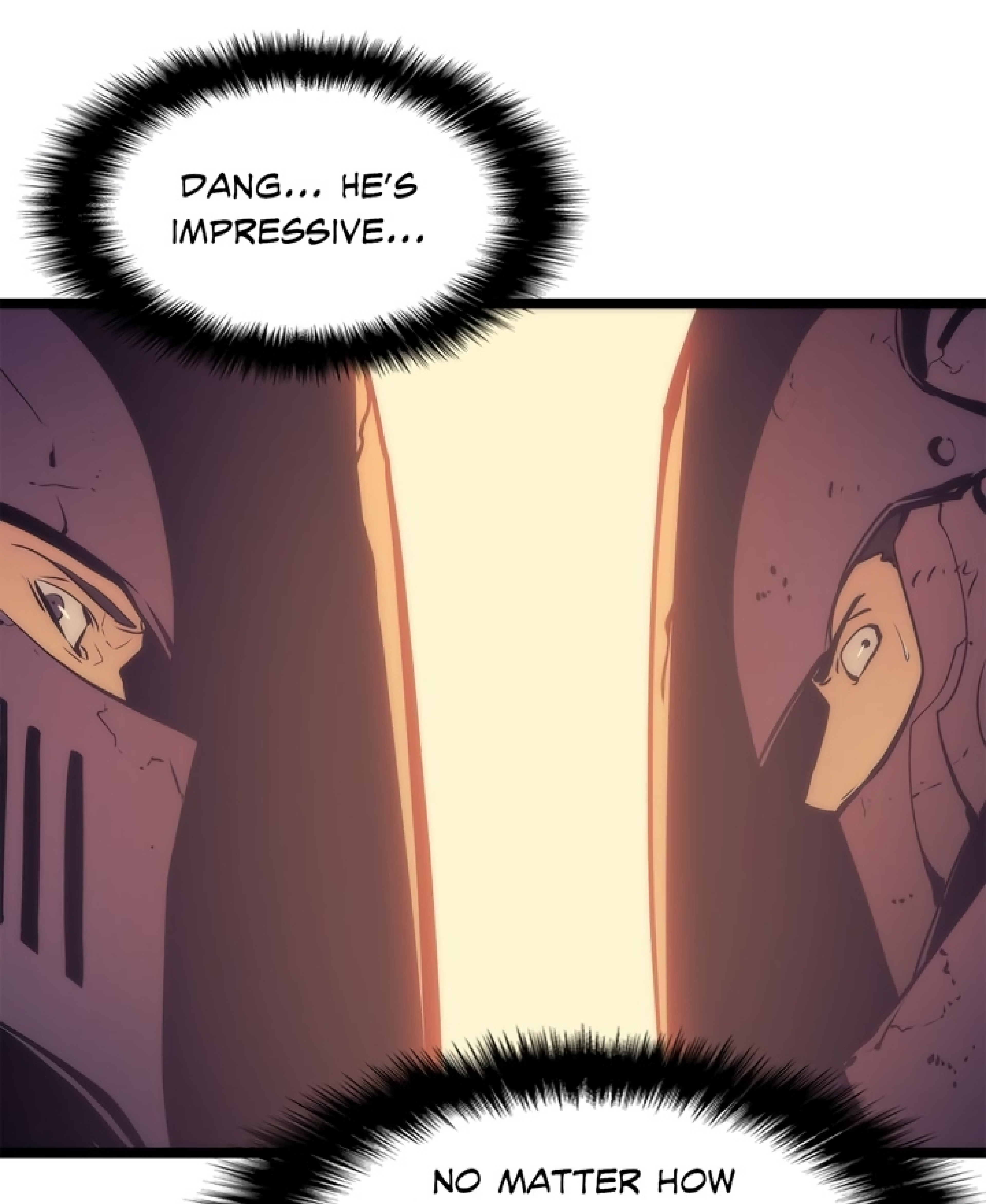

A STORM IS
ON ITS WAY.

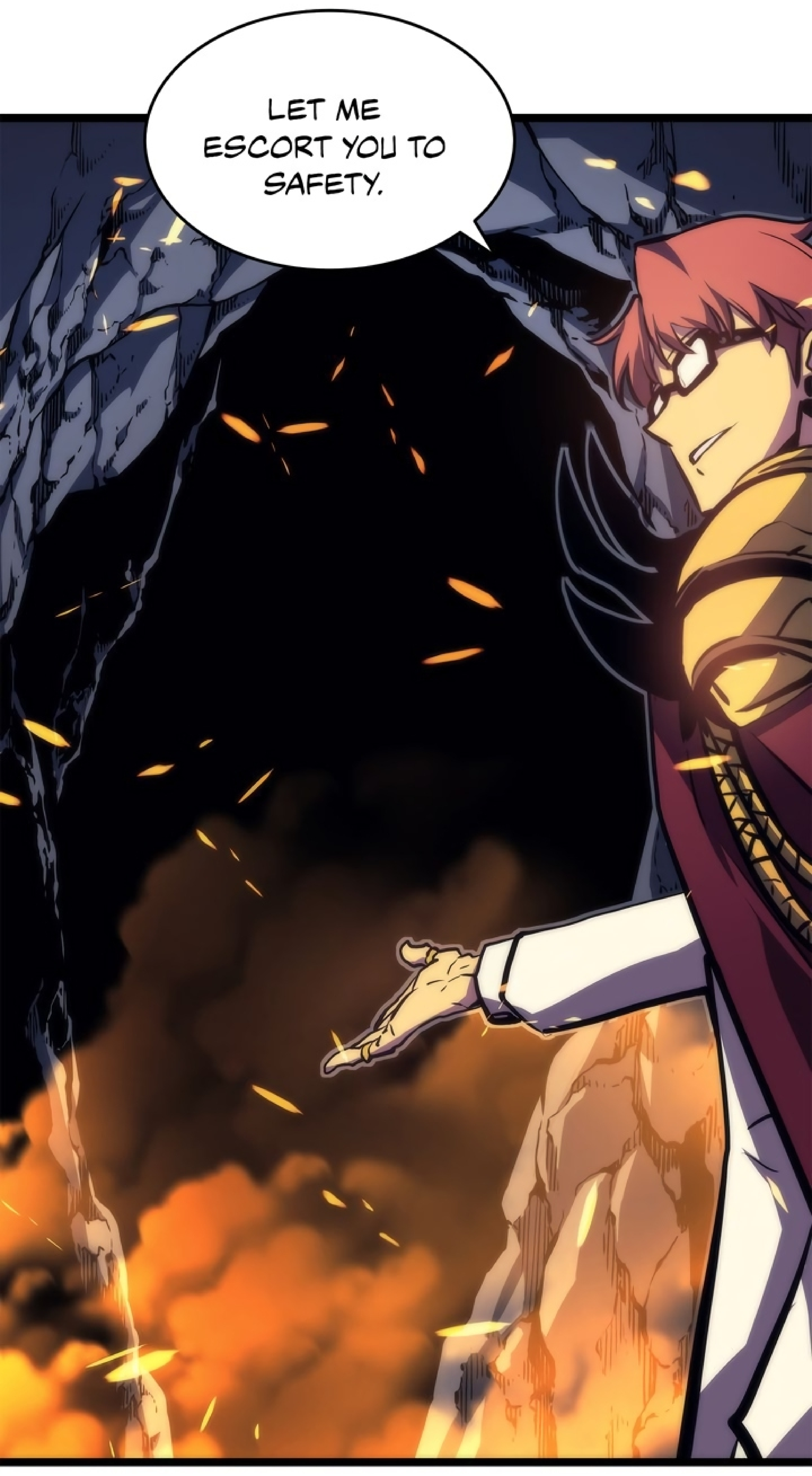

KTUNK
KTUNK

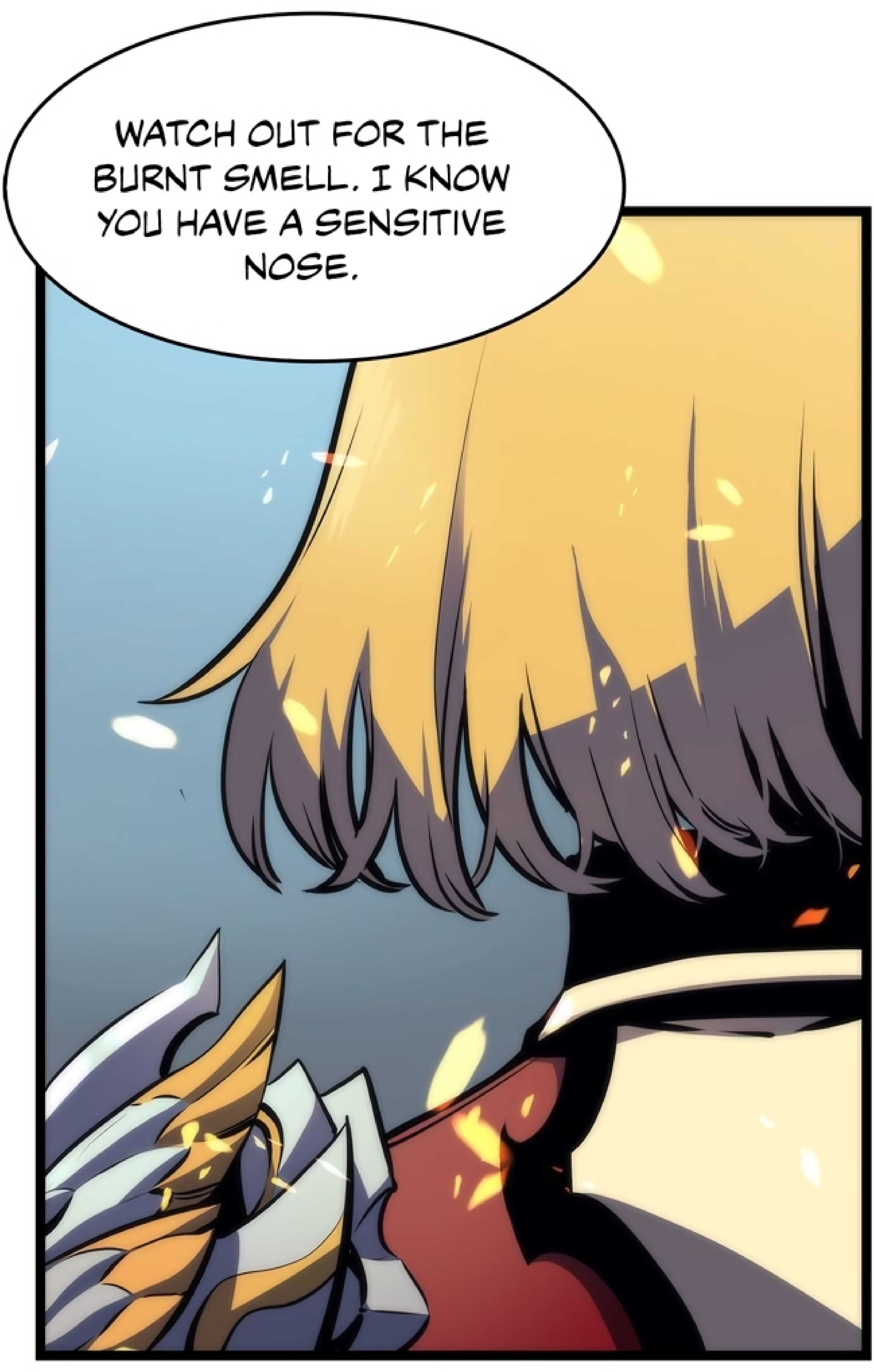
FWOO

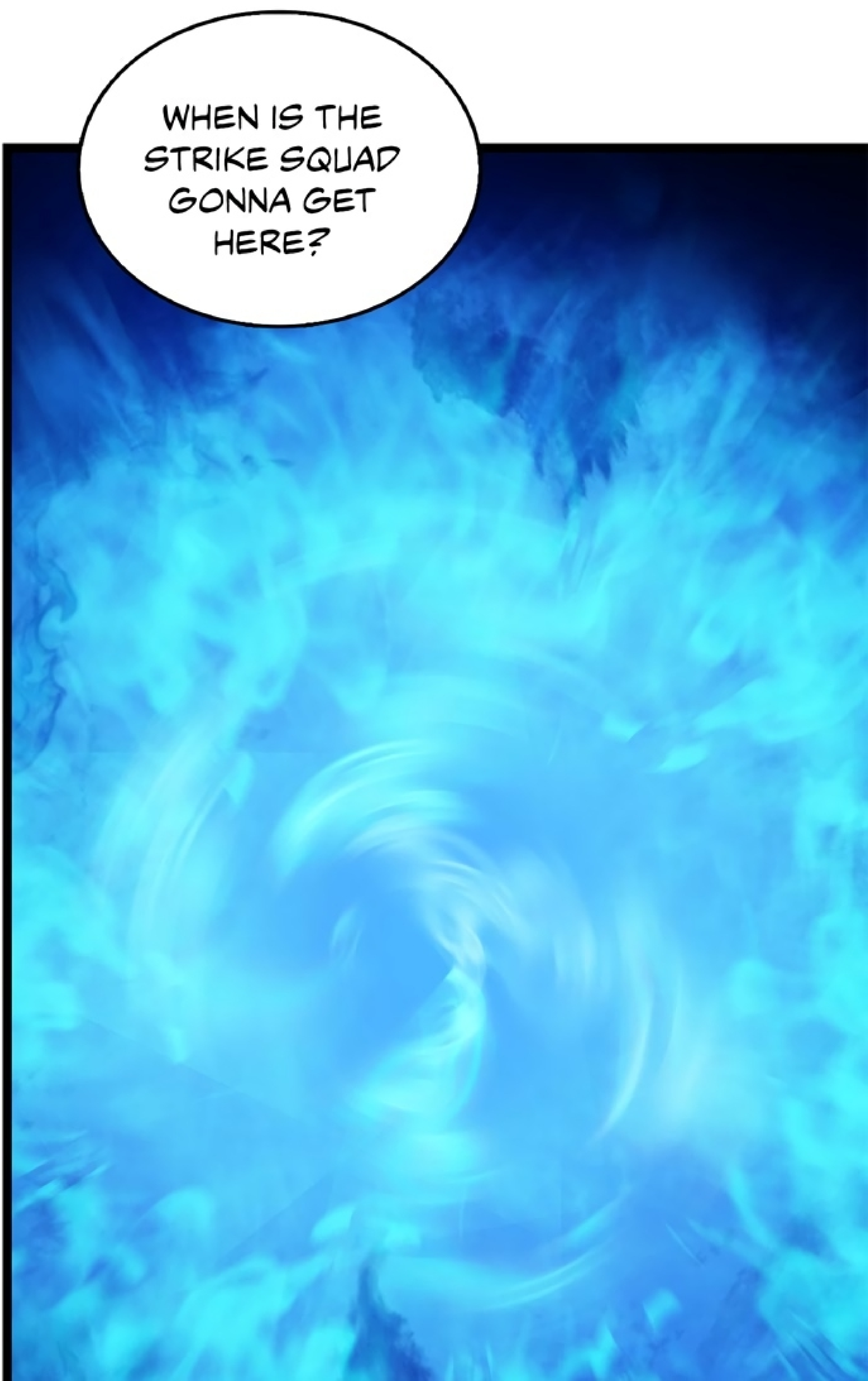
OOOOOOS

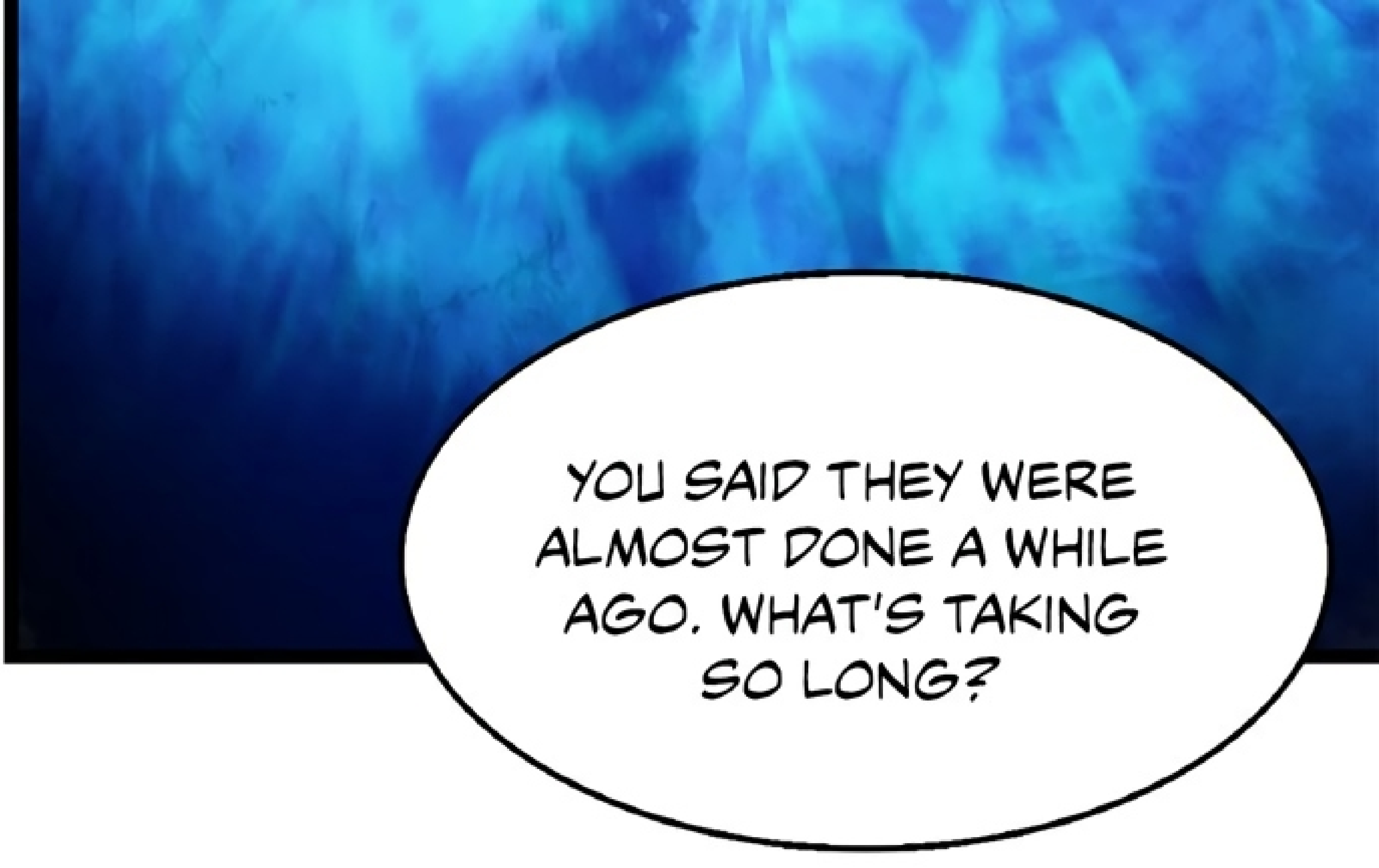

WE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE USE OF CORPSES THAT ARE "COOKED" UNTIL WELL DONE, SO I HELD BACK A BIT.
I'M NOT SURE HOW DEEP THIS DUNGEON GOES, BUT ALL THE BEASTS IN THE VICINITY HAVE PROBABLY TURNED INTO ASHES BY NOW.

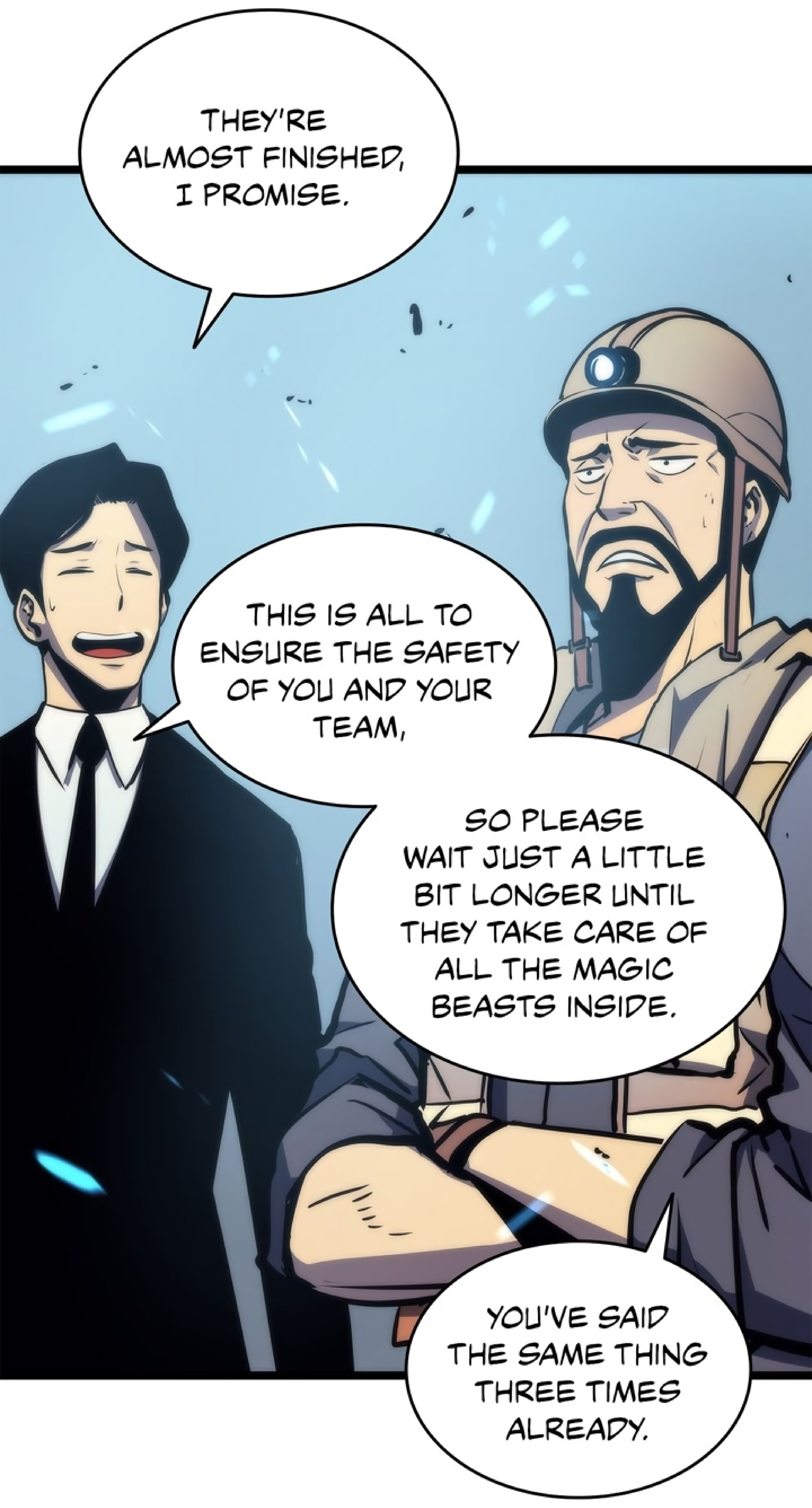

DANG... HE'S IMPRESSIVE...
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE HIM IN ACTION, I'M ALWAYS IN AWE OF HIS POWERS.

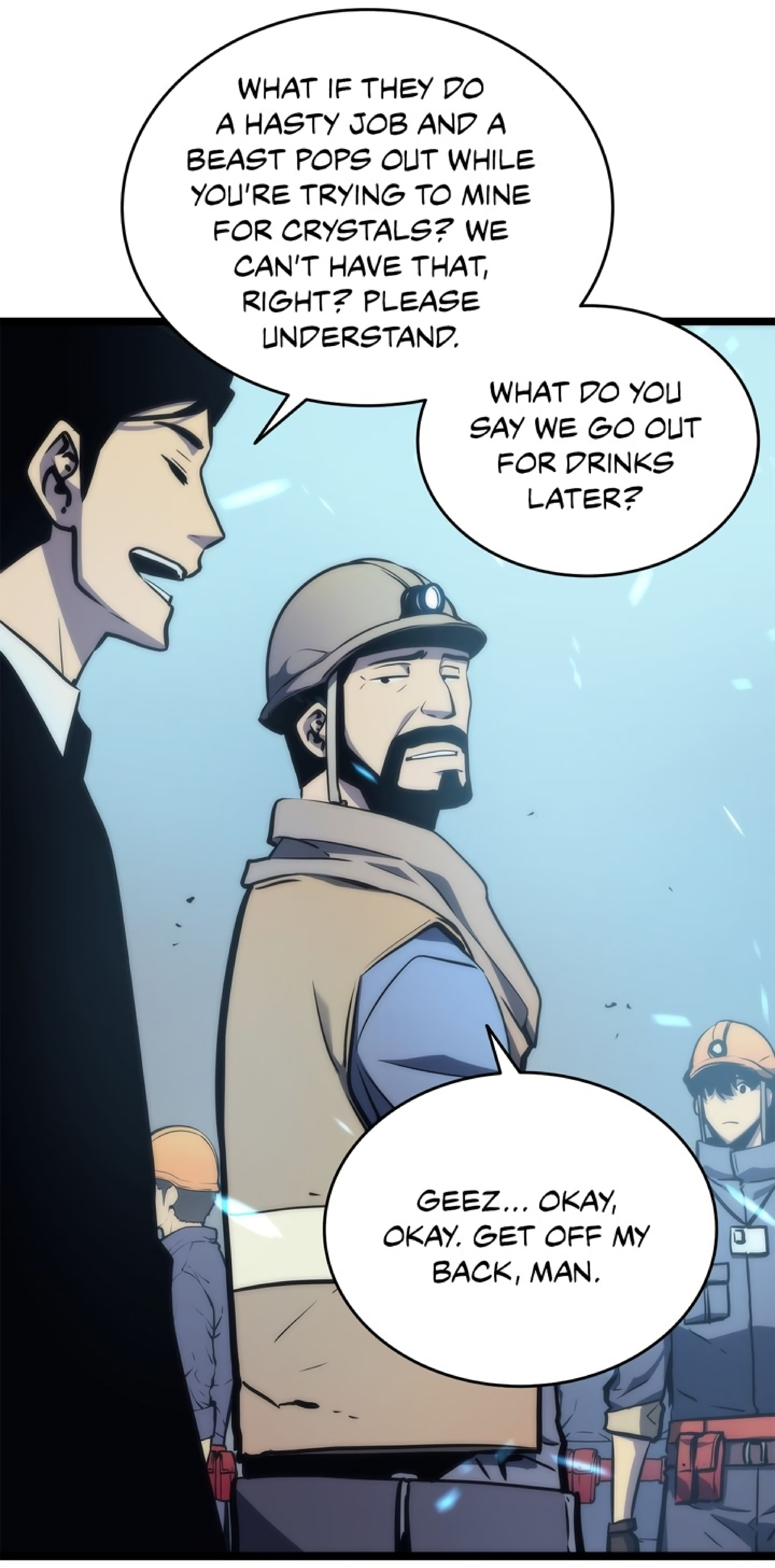

LET ME ESCORT YOU TO SAFETY.

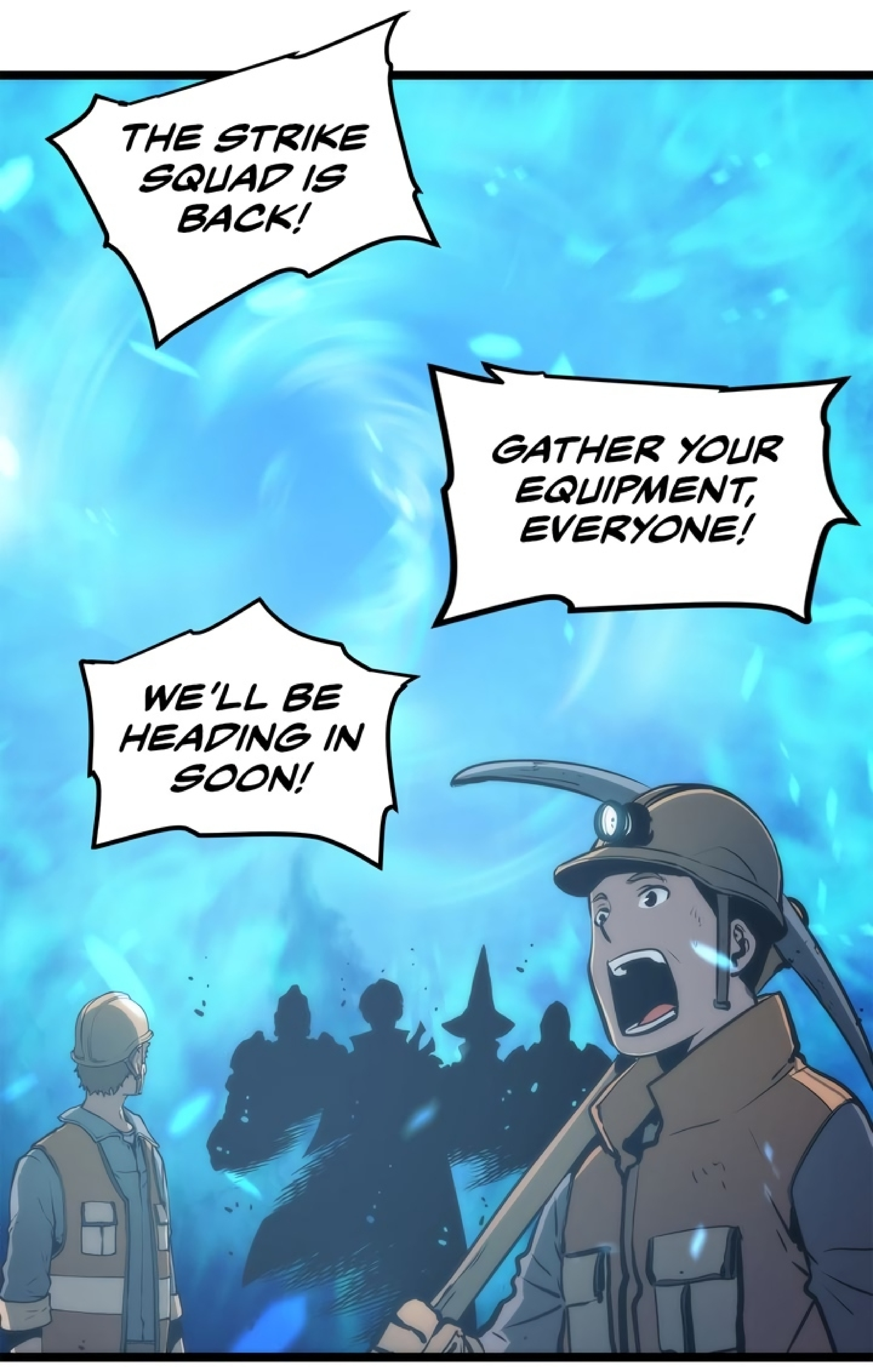

WATCH OUT FOR THE BURNT SMELL. I KNOW YOU HAVE A SENSITIVE NOSE.

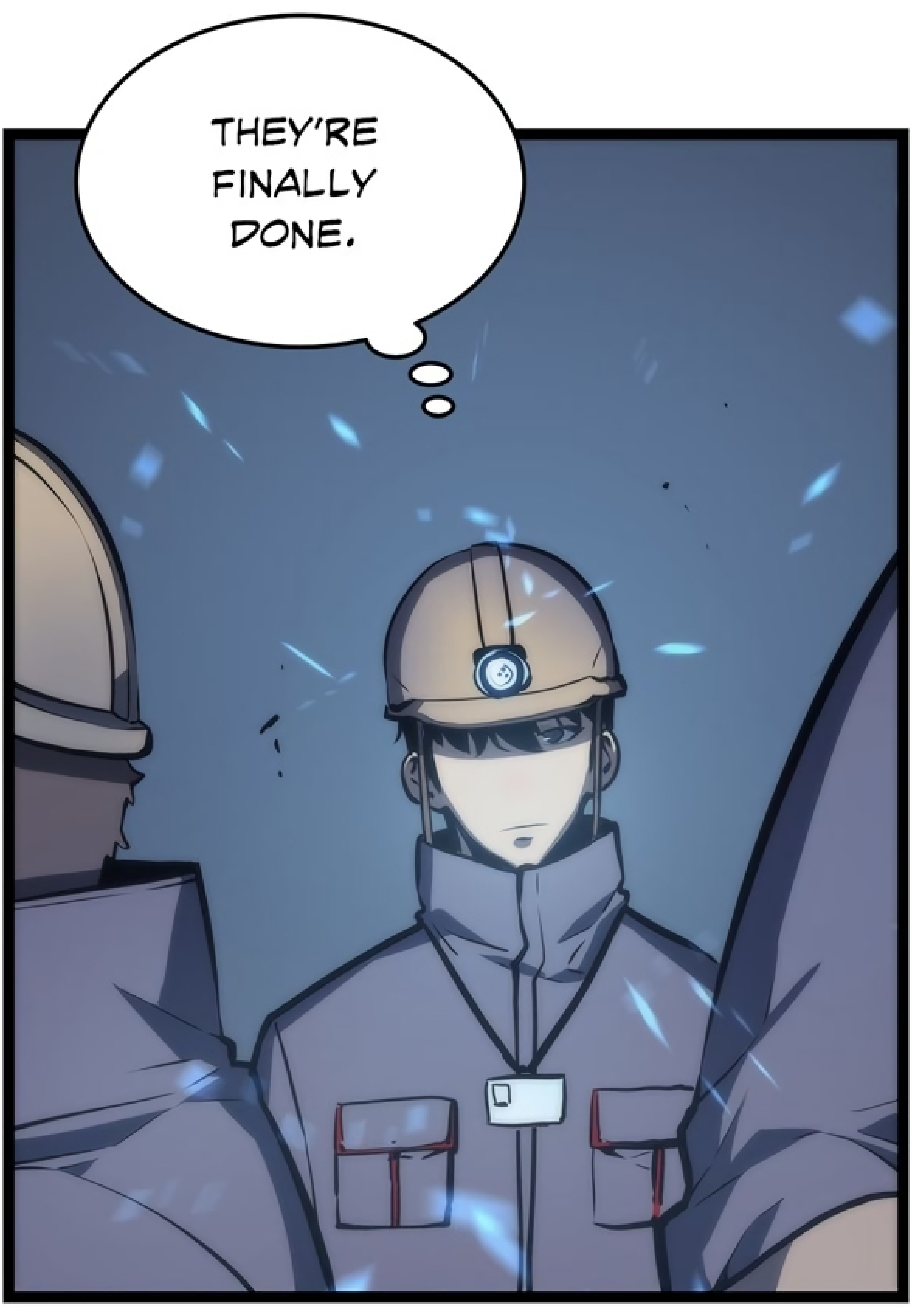

WHEN IS THE STRIKE SQUAD GONNA GET HERE?

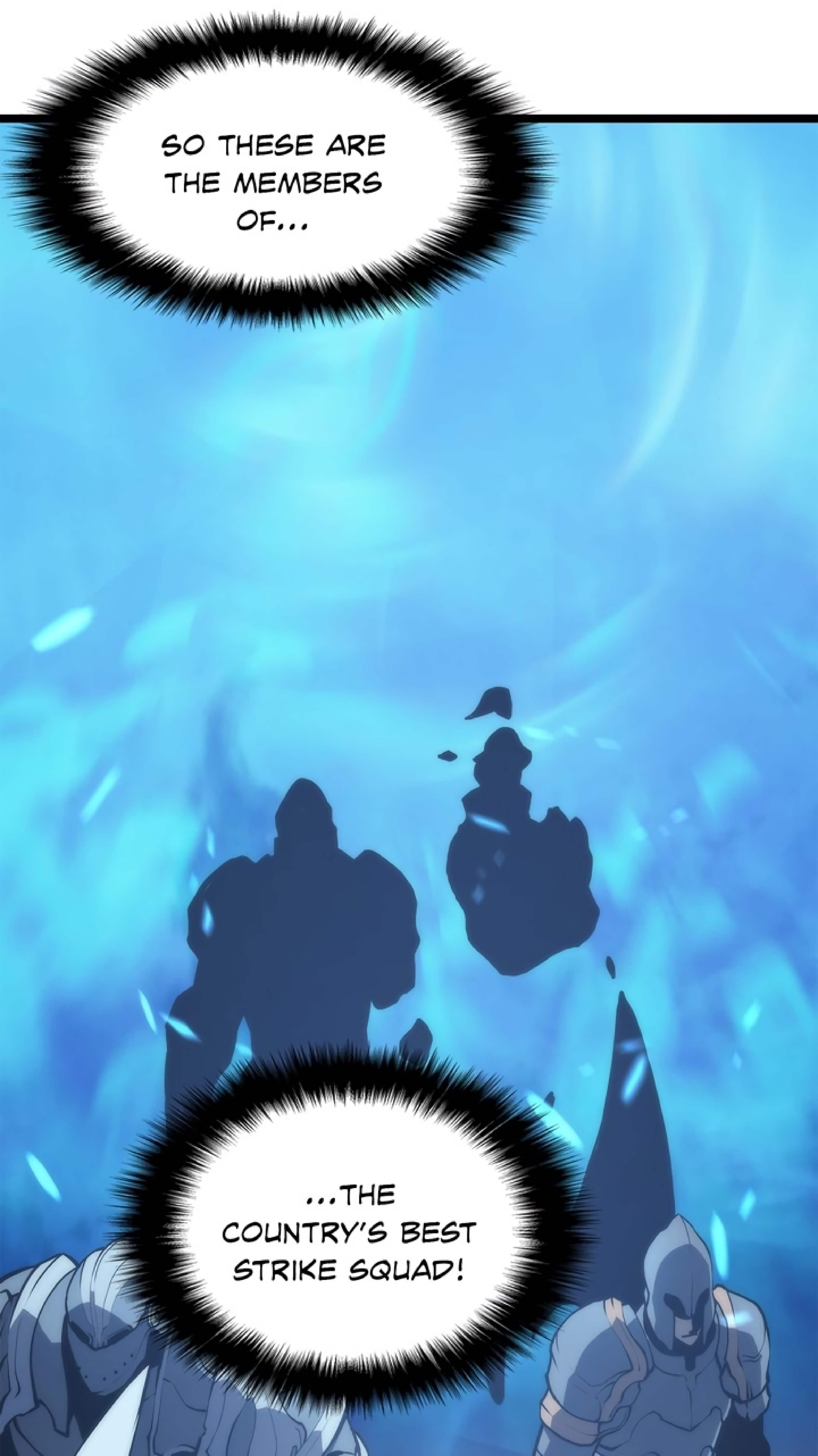

YOU SAID THEY WERE ALMOST DONE A WHILE AGO. WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?

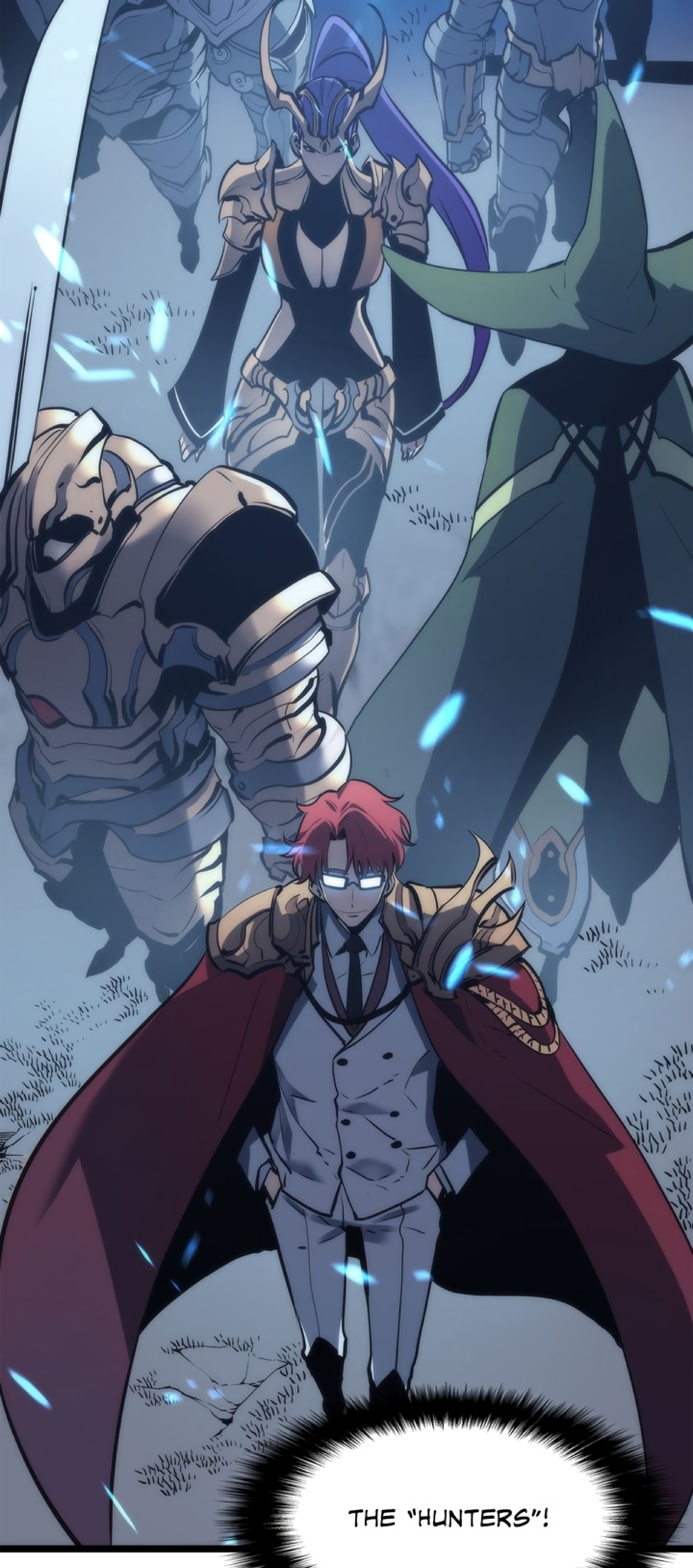

THEY'RE ALMOST FINISHED, I PROMISE.
THIS IS ALL TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF YOU AND YOUR TEAM,
SO PLEASE WAIT JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER UNTIL THEY TAKE CARE OF ALL THE MAGIC BEASTS INSIDE.
YOU'VE SAID THE SAME THING THREE TIMES ALREADY.

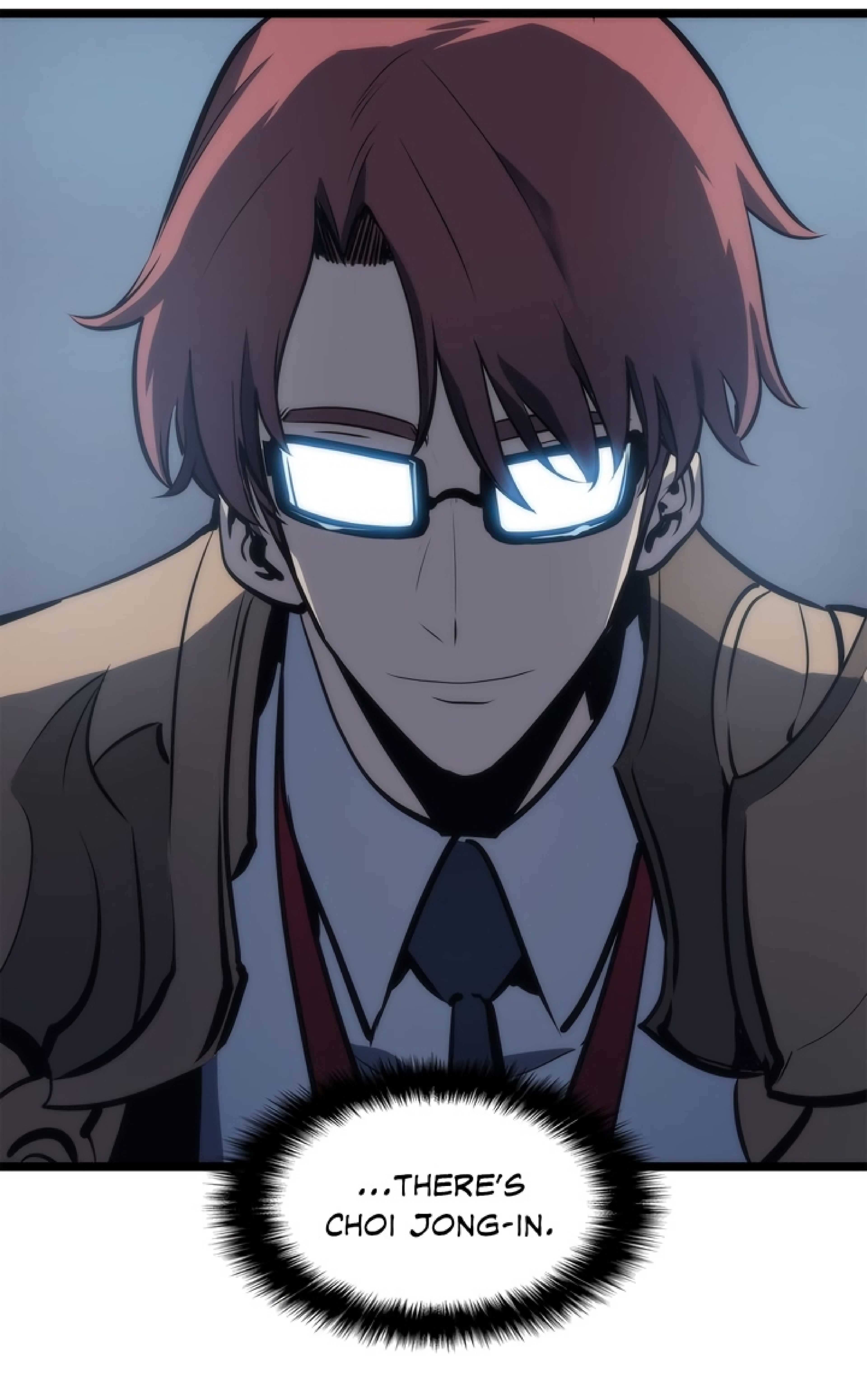

WHAT IF THEY DO A HASTY JOB AND A BEAST POPS OUT WHILE YOU'RE TRYING TO MINE FOR CRYSTALS? WE CAN'T HAVE THAT, RIGHT? PLEASE UNDERSTAND.
WHAT DO YOU SAY WE GO OUT FOR DRINKS LATER?
GEEZ... OKAY, OKAY. GET OFF MY BACK, MAN.

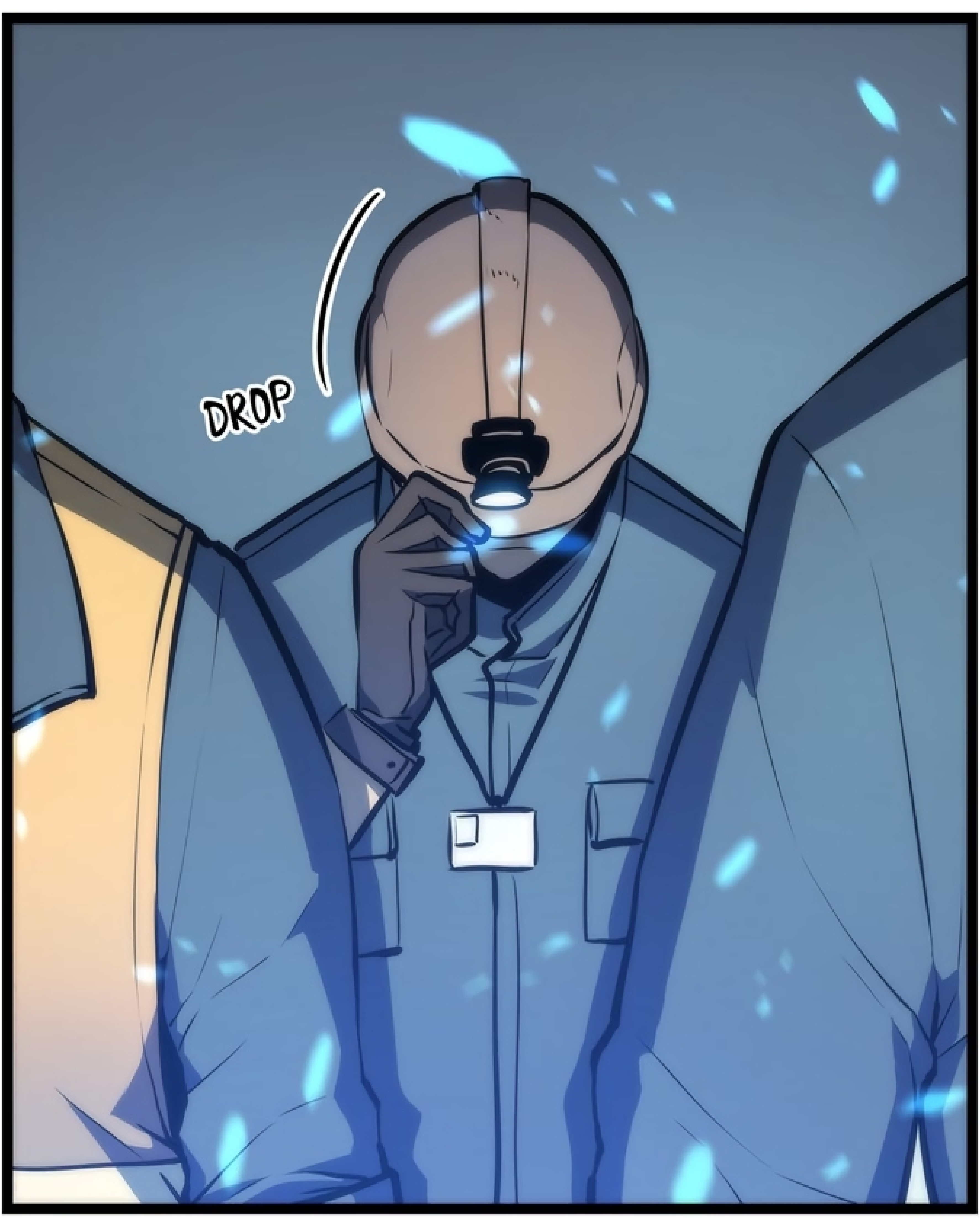

THE STRIKE SQUAD IS BACK!
GATHER YOUR EQUIPMENT, EVERYONE!
WE'LL BE HEADING IN SOON!

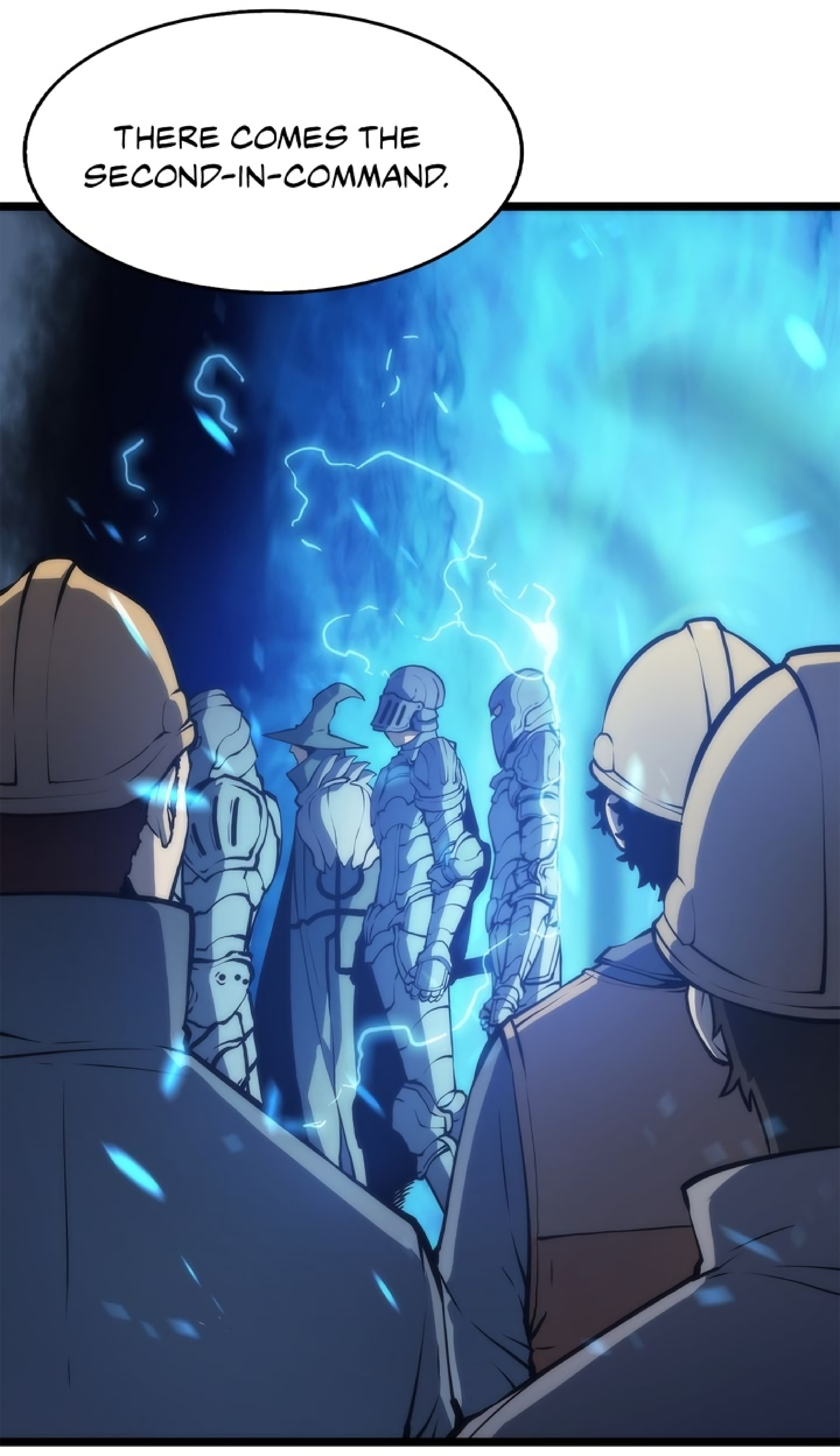

THEY'RE FINALLY DONE.

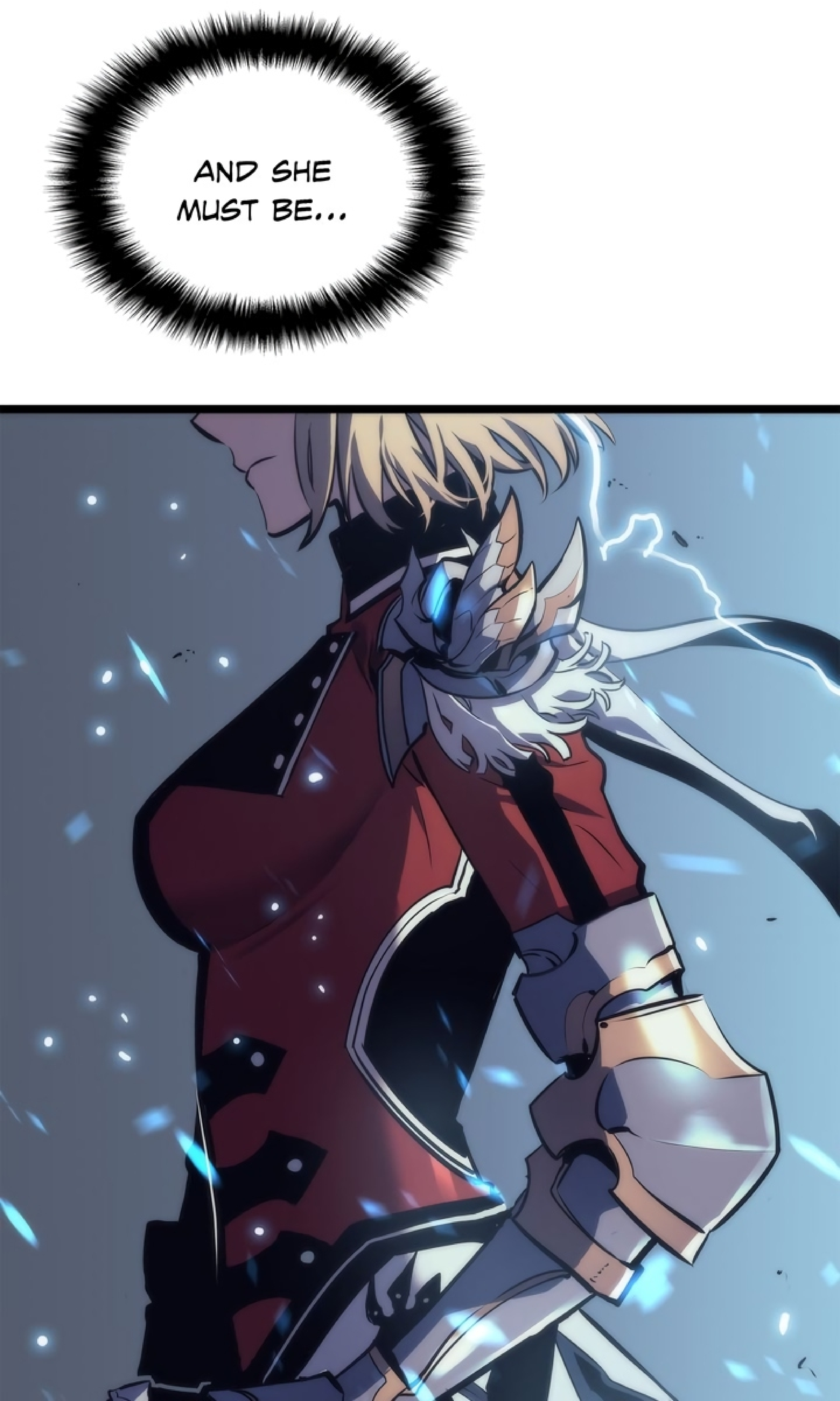

SO THESE ARE THE MEMBERS OF...
...THE COUNTRY'S BEST STRIKE SQUAD!

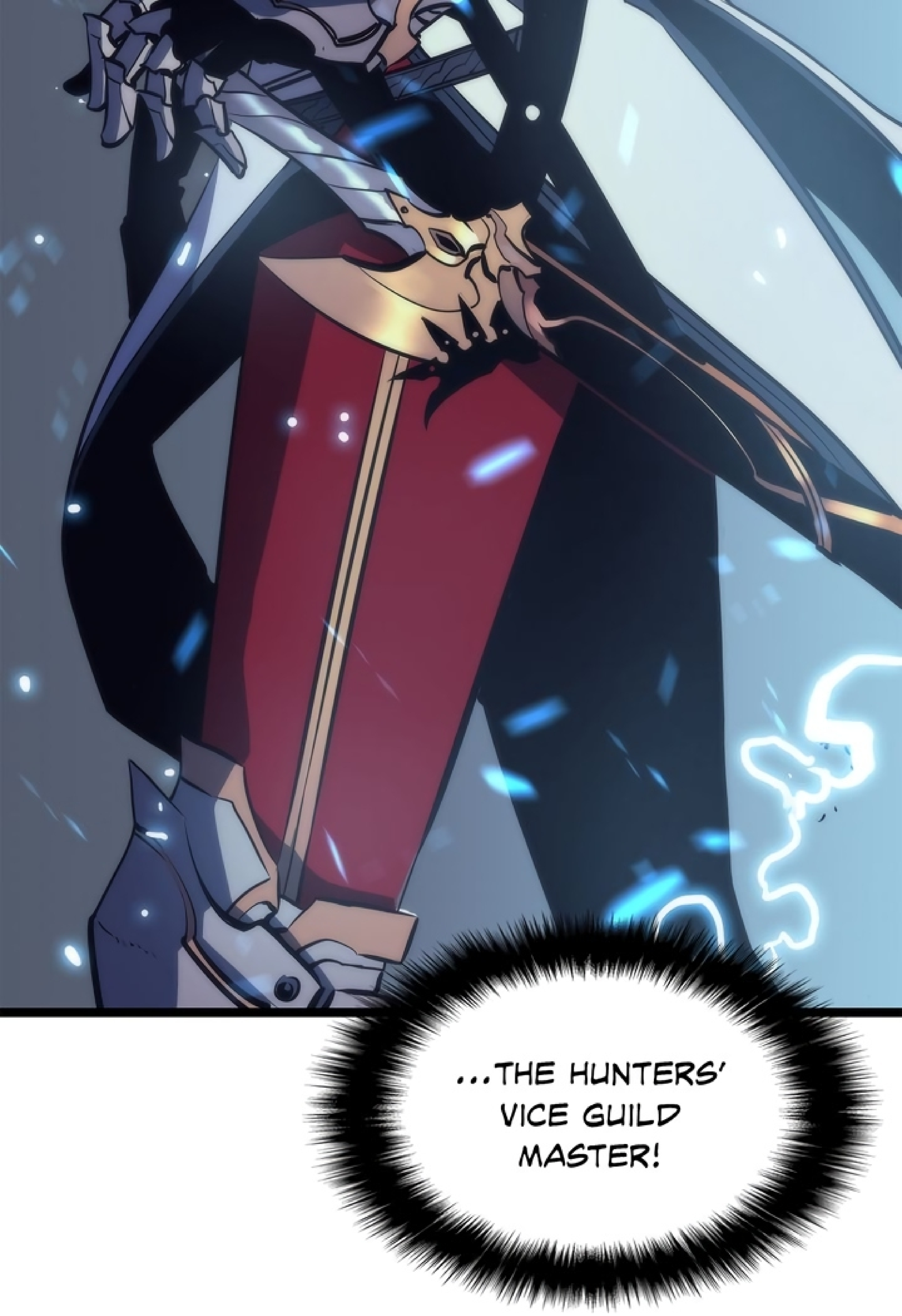

THE "HUNTERS"!


...THERE'S CHOI JONG-IN.


DROP


THERE COMES THE SECOND-IN-COMMAND.


AND SHE MUST BE...


...THE HUNTERS' VICE GUILD MASTER!

To Be Continued...

Solo Leveling

D&C WEBTOON

Translator: JJoelle
Editor: Michelle Kim